BBC

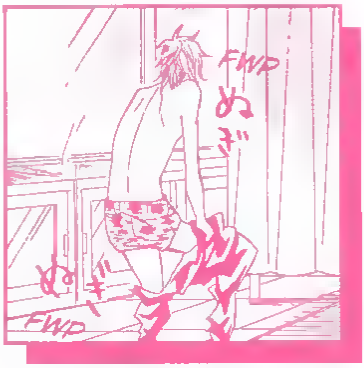
BE×BOY COMICS

すぐに手が出る僕たちは

SUGUNITE GA DERU BOKUTACHIWA SUGUNITE GA DERU BOKUTACHIWA SUGUNITE GA DERU

舟斎文子

WE IMMEDIATELY SWING AT FOUL BALLS



WE IMMEDIATELY SWING AT FOUL BALLS

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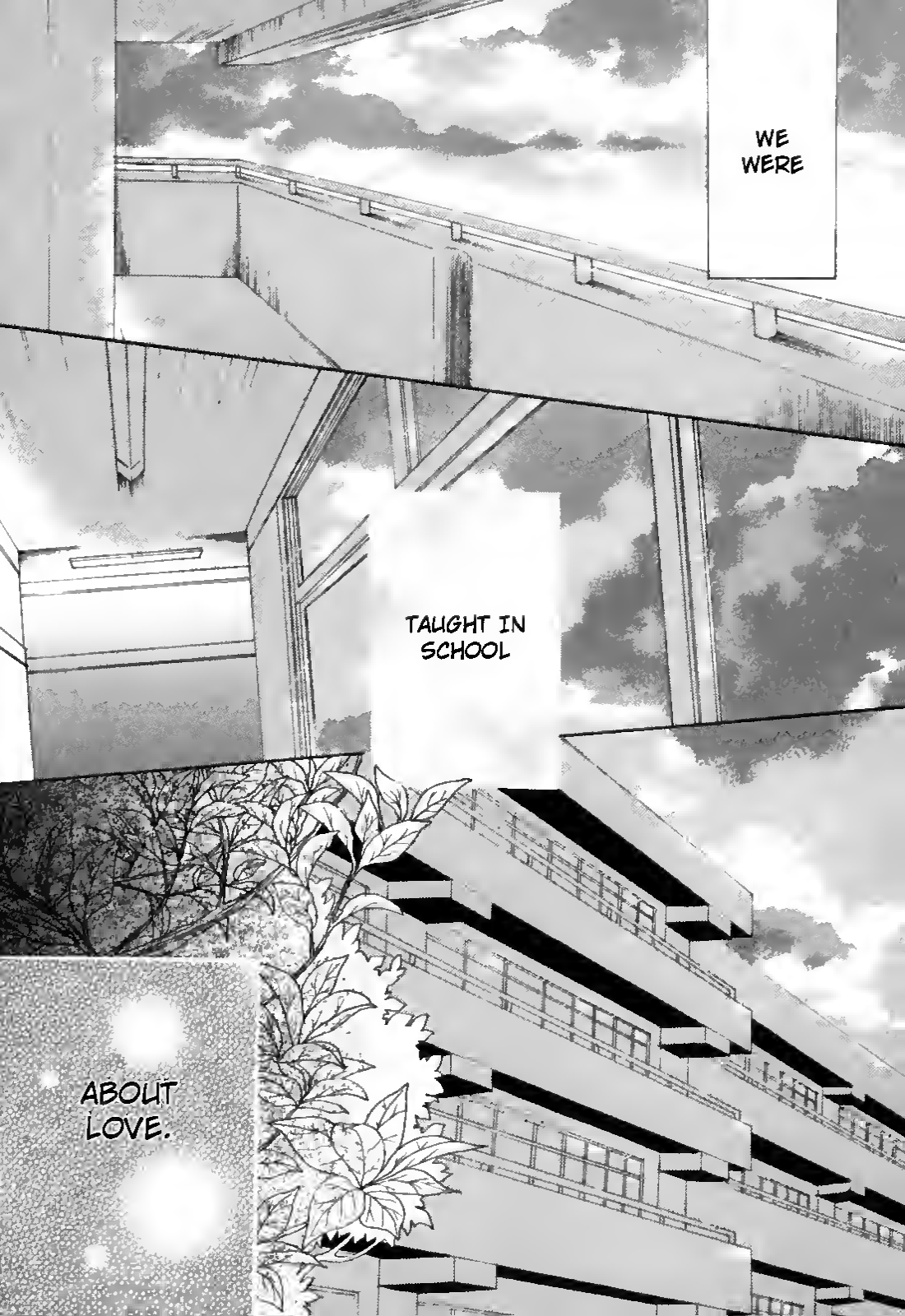
WE IMMEDIATELY SWING AT FOUL BALLS
Punch!
WE IMMEDIATELY SWING AT FOUL BALLS


WE WERE
TAUGHT IN SCHOOL
ABOUT LOVE.

FIRST PERIOD
THE CASE OF GINKAWA AND HAGURI

I'M THE TYPE WHO IMMEDIATELY SWINGS AT FOUL BALLS.

SENPAI*!
HAGU-SENPAI, WAIT! ♡
HAVE YOU FINISHED YOUR JOURNAL?
WHAT ABOUT IT?
TODAY IS KINDA CHILLY!
NOT REALLY.
IT'S COLD SO I WANT TO BE WITH SOMEONE!
I SAID IT'S NOT COLD!

* TERM FOR AN OLDER CLASSMATE.

OH, COME ON, SENPAI!
DO YOU KNOW THE AWAKENING OF LOVE THAT IS WALKING HOME TOGETHER?
TO BE SUPER HONEST IT APPEALS TO ME, BUT *AS MUCH AS IT FEELS GOOD I IGNORE IT*, SENPAI.

THIS IS MY THIRD YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL ...
I MISS THE DAYS WHEN I THOUGHT I COULD JUST GRADUATE PEACEFULLY ...
...
THIS IS BAD! I WONDER IF I CAN HUG HIM?
DON'T GET FIRED UP!!
IF YOU DON'T BEHAVE, I'LL HIT YOU!
COME ON!
DO IT GENTLY!
DIE!
SOMEHOW I'M ON THIS WAVE OF EMOTION CAUSED BY YOU HAVING NO WORDS FOR YOUR RESPONSE!
BEING IGNORED BY YOU IS THE WORST MENTAL PAIN IMAGINABLE!
EVER SINCE I MET GINKAWA MY LIFE HAS GOTTEN HECTIC.
I'M GONNA GET ALL FIRED UP!
THE SWITCH OF MY HEART
STILL IGNORING ME!?
BUT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT NOW.
SHOCK
WHERE IS MY PEACE? SO LOUD.
HMPH
BE QUIET IN THE HALLS.
TEACHER
GYAAH!
AND I JUST HAVE TO HUG YOU!!
HOW MEAN! YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT ...
YOU'RE JUST TOO CUTE! I CAN'T STAND IT ANYMORE
THUNK
OUCH!
DON'T TOUCH ME, YOU PERVERT!!
I'M FIRED UP!
JUST WHEN DID MY DAYS OF SWINGING AT FOULS BEGIN?

SAY, GINKAWA. WHAT'S YOUR TYPE?
ME? HMM, LET ME THINK...
SMART, SERIOUS ...
YES, THAT'S IT!
FOR ME, THE WORSE THEY TREAT ME, THE MORE...
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
FIRED UP I GET!
SO I GUESS YOU COULD SAY... I'M ATTRACTED TO PEOPLE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY PRICKLY AND VIOLENT!
GOOD GRADES, SERIOUS ABOUT SCHOOL
IF YOU TOUCH HIM, HE'LL HIT YOU
I WANT TO MAKE THAT KIND OF DARLING PERSON TURN TO LOOK AT ME...
...
UNEASY AURA
PRICKLY AND VIOLENT
FEELING LIKE ONE OF THE GANG
THIRD
YO!
GINKAWA ...
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS IN THE THIRD YEAR'S CLASSROOM IF YOU'RE A SECOND YEAR STUDENT!?
YOU COULD GET THAT JUST FROM LISTENING TO THEM.
HUH? SO GINKAWA'S TYPE IS HAGURI?
RIGHT, HAGU-SENPAI!?

SMACK
!?
IN ORDER TO SEE MY BELOVED ...
IT IS NOT!
FORGET ABOUT IT, IT'S JUST A DETAIL!
THAT'S ANOTHER THING I LIKE ABOUT YOU
YOU'RE SO SERIOUS.
I DON'T NEED ANY TEDIOUS TALK ABOUT DETAILS.
IF YOU DON'T NEED IT THEN LEAVE MY SEAT!
OH MY!
...
TMP
I'M FIRED UP BUT I WANT HIM TO HIT ME AGAIN WHEN I GRIT MY TEETH... HE'LL CRACK MY MOLARS.
...

THIS HECTIC LIFESTYLE STARTED
AT THE END OF MY SECOND YEAR.
GET BACK TO YOUR CLASS!
OOH, BE GENTLE WITH MY BEHIND.
I'LL STAB IT WITH A PENCIL!
SHOVE
HAGU-SENPAI.
LET'S WALK HOME TOGETHER AGAIN TODAY.
!
UNTIL NOW, I...
KICK
JUST GET OUT!
OW.

I NEVER HAD ANY DESIRE TO HAVE CONTACT WITH SOMEONE SO DEVIL-MAY-CARE LIKE GINKAWA.
SEE YOU LATER, ♡ SENPAI!
POUT!
...
BUT CONTACT WAS UNEXPECTLY SIMPLE TO MAKE.
YOU TWO REALLY GET ALONG WELL!
HEH
HEH
WE DO NOT!
I REMEMBER THAT DAY. I WAS FEELING ILL.
SO I WENT TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE, WHICH I DON'T USUALLY DO.
NURSE
LAY DOWN.
OKAY.
OH, I FORGOT TO TAKE OFF MY GLASSES.
WHATEVER.
ROLL
SNUGGLE
TAP
SNUGGLE

REACH
SIGH
THAT TICKLES.
MM...
SOMEONE IS TOUCHING ME?
MRR
PAT
HUH?
AH.

... OIO I WAKE YOU?
∞∞
ONLY WEARING BOXERS
UGH...
GYAAH! YOU PERVERT!!
BAM
CRUNCH
SPARK
SLIP
THUD
THUD
NOOO

I WAS JUST GOING TO TAKE OFF YOUR GLASSES BUT YOU SCREAMED SO LOUDLY ...
I TOUCHED YOU TOO, BUT ...
YEAH, YEAH.
YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WEREN'T SLEEPING WELL, SO ...
IT'S PRETTY NORMAL TO SCREAM WHEN YOU WAKE UP IN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER TO A MAN ONLY WEARING UNDERPANTS!
I WAS JUST PLAYING IN THE WATER! ♪
A HA HA HA
GIVE ME MY BAG!
I'LL CARRY IT
TO BE HONEST, I WAS SHOCKED, BUT IT WAS ACTUALLY REALLY FUN.
YOU'RE THE WORST! ⚡
I GUESS I GOT CARRIED AWAY LOOKING AT YOU! ♡
WHY!?
DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY!
YOU DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
IS HE A MASO-CHIST?
HE REALLY IS DUMB
PLAYING IN THE WATER IN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER?
YOUR SLEEPING FACE AT THE TIME
WAS SOMEHOW SO INNOCENT AND CUTE.

SO I IMAGINED THAT YOU'D BE EVEN CUTER WHEN YOU WOKE UP IF YOU SLEPT SO CUTELY...
YOU WERE SO CUTE WHEN YOU WERE SLEEPING.
YOUR HEART-STRINGS ARE WEIRD!
LOVE AT FIRST PUNCH! SO COOL!
WAAH!
GYAAH!
MEMORY PLAYBACK
AAAH
SNAP
SNAP
BROKEN STRINGS
SNAP
THE MOMENT HE WAS HIT
GRAB
THE MOMENT MY HEART-STRINGS WERE PUNCHED BY YOU THEY ALL SNAPPED!
TAKE RESPONS-IBILITY!
I RENOUNCE THAT RESPONS-BILITY!!
DON'T TOUCH ME!
SO MEAN, SENPAI~
EVERY SINGLE DAY...

HE IS A COMPLETE IDIOT, AND COMPLETELY STRANGE.
I'LL CARRY YOUR NOTES.
DON'T COME NEAR ME!
OW!
SHOVE
HE NEVER STOPPED.
ALWAYS MEDDLING ...
OH, DO YOU HAVE GYM NEXT?
RATTLE
* CHANGING ROOM
EEK!
GASP
SENPAI.
YOU'VE GOT A SAKURA PETAL ON YOU.
ON YOUR HEAD.
THE FLOWERS ARE ALMOST ALL GONE.
MRR.
HOLD STILL FOR A SEC, OKAY?

SWISH
BUT...
NOW YOU'RE CLEAN.
THERE ARE TIMES...
WHEN I CAN'T TAKE A SWING.
THROW IT AWAY!
OH, OWCH!
BUT HE SWUNG
I'LL USE IT AS A BOOK-MARK!
DING DONG
DING DONG

WHY IS TODAY THE ONLY DAY HE DOESN'T SHOW UP!?
GASP
GASP
WHY ...
EVEN SO...
TAP TAP TAP TAP
NURSE'S OFFICE
SWOOSH
NOT HERE
ROOF
NOT HERE
IF I DON'T FIND HIM QUICKLY ...
!?
WHEN HE'S MAD HE SWINGS AT THOSE AROUND HIM.
EXCUSE ME!
THIS SCHOOL HAS POOR RECEPTION, SO WHERE IS HE, DAMMIT!
HIS SHOES WERE IN THE RACK!
SMACK
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
HEY.
HAGURI.
IF I DON'T, HE'LL ...

ABOUT GINKAWA.
IF YOU DO, YOU GET DETENTION.
WELL, THAT KIND OF DETAIL IS UNIMPORTANT.
DETAIL!?
I'LL HIT YOU.
...ME. NAGITA. PLEASE DON'T SAY THINGS THAT INVITE MISUNDERSTANDING.
HE'S BEEN SKIPPING CLASS ON AN USUAL BASIS.
'CUZ HE'S SMART.
ESPECIALLY IN JAPANESE HISTORY, WHICH I TEACH
AT THIS RATE I WORRY ABOUT HIS CREDITS.
YOU.
YOU'RE GOOD FRIENDS WITH GINKAWA THE SECOND YEAR, RIGHT?
I HEARD IT FROM THE GIRLS.
TAKE CARE OF IT. YOUR WORK WILL KEEP HIM FROM REPEATING A YEAR.
HUH!?
SEE YOU!
WHAT!?
SO, TELL HIM TO GO TO CLASS.
THANKS.
RATTLE
BACK TO THE PRESENT
I MEAN...
WHY DO I HAVE TO DO IT!?
THAT HORRIBLE TEACHER!
TAP TAP TAP
TAP

DOESN'T HE UNDERSTAND THAT...!?
BUT REPEAT A YEAR...
REPEATING ISN'T GOOD...
THE YEAR DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO OF US WOULD GROW...
...
AND IF HE HAD TO REPEAT A YEAR ...
FOR HIS LIFE TO BE RUINED ALREADY IN HIGH SCHOOL ...
WE'D GROW APART, WOULDN'T WE?

I SHOULD WORRY ABOUT HIM BEING HELD BACK!
CUZ HE'S SO DUMB
SHAKE
SHAKE
WHY AM I WORRIED ABOUT GROWING APART?
WE'D BE GOING TO DIFFERENT SCHOOLS!
!
IT'S A MIRACLE THAT HE EVEN MADE IT TO HIS SECOND YEAR!
DUMB ...!?
DERP
THAT'S RIGHT, HE'S DUMB!!
DUMB!
HUH?
もん
SWEAT
I DON'T EVEN HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, DO I!?
EVEN IF HE DOES REPEAT A YEAR!
もん
SWEAT
SWEAT
もん
IF A REGULAR IDIOT GETS HELD BACK, ISN'T HE REALLY AN IDIOT? SO IT'S FINE!
SCREECH
PANT
GOT TIRED
WELL, IT'S...
NO, WHY WOULD I CARE...
REPEATING A YEAR IS A BIT MUCH...
HE ENDS UP WORRYING.
WELL, BUT...

CAFETERIA
HEY!
A HA HA HA HA!
PANT
PANT
PFT
RAGH!
DAMN IT!!
WHEN I FIND HIM, I'LL BEAT THE CRAP OUT OF HIM!
WAAH!
QUIT KIDDIN' AROUND!
SENPAI, GIMME!
OH, HEY!!
SHOVE
SHOVE
SHOVE
GYAAH!
I'M SORRY, PLEASE STOP!!
I'M SORRY!
SHOVE
IF YOU TEASE ME TOO MUCH,
MM
I'LL HAVE TO PULL A PRANK ON YOU!

...
DO YOU SURRE-NDER!?
YOU BULLY !!
GYA HA HA HA HA
WAH!
TAP TAP
GINKAWA-SENPAI, I'M SORRY!!
HUH ...?
...
WAH!
SENPAI,
I WON'T EAT YOUR POCKY WITHOUT PERMISSION AGAIN, SO PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
PLEASE STOP THE PRANKS!

TMP
TMP
I FROZE IN PLACE.
WITHOUT REALIZING IT...
STEP
HE WAS
WITH SOME-ONE ELSE...
AND HAVING SO MUCH FUN...

WANTED TO TAKE A SWING AT HIM...
I HAD JUST...
OH, I GET IT...
DRIP
LIKE I ALWAYS DID...
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

I KNEW YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WAS JUST IN THE CAFETERIA!
AH
HAGU-SENPAI!
FWAA
チュッ
SE-
SENPAI ...?
SHOULDN'T HE HAVE HIT ME BY NOW?
I DID IT WITHOUT THINKING...
THUMP
THUMP
NO TOUCH!
ボコーン!
WHAM!
HUH ...?

I'M SO SORRY!
WAAH!
I'M SORRY THAT I GRABBED YOU!!
!!!
WOOSH
I KNEW IT!
HE'S GONNA HIT ME!
SHOCK!
FWIP
SPIN
STOP
...
...?
PEEK
...

I GET IT.
!
GASP
はっ
I REALLY GET IT.
SENPAI!?
ALL OF A SUDDEN, I...
COULD ONLY RESPOND TO YOU BY TAKING A SWING AT YOU.
SQUEEZE
ぎゅっ
WHAT SHOULD I DO, BESIDES THIS...?
MY FEELINGS WOULD OVERFLOW ...
BECAUSE IF I THOUGHT ABOUT IT,
YOU... I...

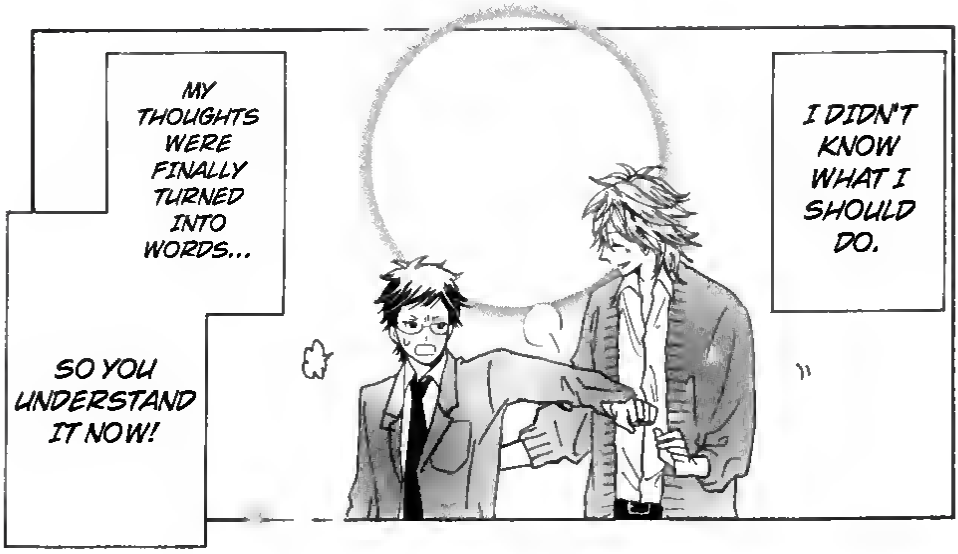
I HATE YOU...
I DON'T NOW HOW TO EXPRESS MYSELF IN WORDS.
GRAB
!?
GINKAWA !?
...

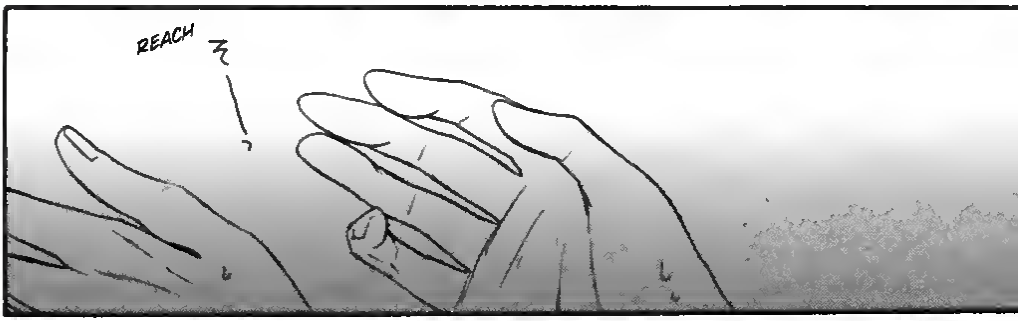
SLAM
THROW
THUD
FWP
HEY, SENPAI.
WERE YOU SERIOUS WHEN YOU SAID YOU HATE ME?
SHOCK
BECAUSE IF YOU WERE SERIOUS, THEN THAT...
WOULD MAKE ME CONCEITED?

TELLING ME THAT YOU HATE ME WITH SUCH AN UNEASY EXPRESSION ...
HUG
ぎゅっ。
I DON'T BELIEVE IT ONE BIT.
WHY WERE YOU CRYING?
WHY WOULD YOU SUDDENLY SAY YOU HATE ME?
DID SOMETHING I DO MAKE YOU UNEASY?
I MAY BE DUMB, BUT EVEN I KNOW THAT.
I WANT YOU TO HAVE ALL OF THESE FEELINGS, SENPAI.

YOU LAUGHING WITH SOMEONE OTHER THAN ME ...
THAT'S WHAT I HATE.
OTHER THAN ME...
HUH?
TWITCH
ヒ!
ッ
YOU WERE ACTUALLY JUST JEALOUS ...
SENPAI, THAT MEANS ...
...
GRAB

SLAP
BLUSH
SENPAI, THAT WAS A KISS...
OW!!
SE--
GASP
SENPAI, I GET IT!!
I WILL END YOU IF YOU SAY ANOTHER WORD!!
SHUT UP!!
YOU HIT ME INSTEAD OF SAYING THAT YOU LIKE ME!!
HAGU-SENPAI...
HE'S SO EMBARRASSED THAT HE'S SAYING STRANGE THINGS ...
THAT MEANS THAT YOU LOVE ME!!
I MEAN, THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT.


MY THOUGHTS WERE FINALLY TURNED INTO WORDS...
SO YOU UNDERSTAND IT NOW!
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD DO.


REACH

SIGH
CHACK

...

HE GOT TIRED FROM CRYING AND FELL ASLEEP.
WELL..
SIGH
TAP
DON'T YOU WORRY, I'M TOTALLY CRAZY ABOUT YOU.
SINCE THEN...
YOU REALLY ARE AN IDIOT, GINKAWA...
NURSE'S OFFICE
RATTLE
DON'T PLAY WITH SQUIRT GUNS IN WINTER!
YOU'RE SOAKED!
IT WAS FUN!
IT WAS COLD!

DRIP
DRIP
OH?
HUH? WHERE'D THE NURSE GO?
IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'LL TURN ON THE HEATER.
I HAVE TO DRY MY CLOTHES.
SOME-ONE'S SLEEPING ON THE BED.
FWP
FWP
CATCH
TOSS
MAYBE IT'S THE NURSE?
MAYBE HE'S TAKING A NAP?
HEY, KNOCK IT OFF, GINKAWA.
THERE'S NO WAY.
WHISH
I DON'T CARE.
CREAK
CREAK

PEEK

THE FIRST PUNCH THAT HE LANDED ON ME

WAS A ONE-HIT KO.

DON'T TOUCH ME, IDIOT!!
TOO AWARE OF GINKAWA
MY BODY CAN'T TAKE IT.
WILL I BE OKAY?
I FEEL LIKE HE'S HITTING ME MORE LATELY...
I KNOW HE LOVES ME, BUT...

SEVERAL DAYS LATER...

WE IMMEDIATELY SWING AT FOUL BALLS / END

WE'LL KEEP RUNNING
走り続ける僕たちは
はしりつづけるぼくたちは
SECOND PERIOD
THE CASE OF TAKA AND YUU

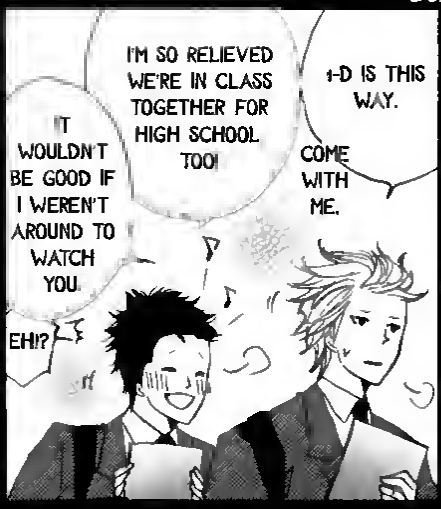
WOOSH
IT SEEMS MY FATE IS TO KEEP RUNNING.
BEEP
STEP
TMP TMP TMP
KUWA! JUST A BIT FASTER AND YOU'LL BREAK THE SCHOOL RECORD!!
PANT
PANT
TAKA! DO YOUR BEST!!
PWA
YEAH!

BREAK THE RECORD!
YUU,
YOU'VE GOT CREAM ON YOUR FACE.
I'LL WIPE IT
TAKA!
THIS CREAM-FILLED BREAD IS GOOD.
WHEN I ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL...
HA HA HA HA
INTER-HIGH! INTER-HIGH!
YOU'RE OUR ACE!
LEAVE IT TO ME!!
THUMBS UP!
I STARTED DATING YUU, WHOM I FELL FOR AT FIRST SIGHT.
I STARTED RUNNING EVERY SINGLE DAY...
EQUALLY PASSIONATE ABOUT MY LOVE AND MY CLUB ACTIVITIES ...
AND NOW, THREE MONTHS LATER...
SLURP
SLUUURP
I STILL HAVEN'T STOPPED RUNNING

...
SLURP
GULP
GULP
MM...
SO GOOD! ♡
SEAFOOD!
CHOMP
SO HAPPY!
IT'S NOT GOOD, THE TEACHERS HERE ARE USELESS.
EDUCATIONALY...
THAT'S GOOD, YUU! YOU GOT HOT WATER!
YUU, YOU'VE GOT A SPOT. YOU NEED A NAPKIN.
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?
JUST A BIT.
THANKS, TEACHER!
... YUU, WON'T THE SMELL OF YOUR INSTANT NOODLES GIVE US AWAY?
IT'S FINE, THE TEACHER ALREADY KNOWS!
HE GAVE ME HOT WATER EARLIER!

?
LOTS OF FOOD
STARE
FOOD
FOOD
OTHER THAN RAMEN
YOU EAT TOO MUCH ...
IT'S NOT STUFF! HOW MANY MORE CUP NOODLES DO YOU HAVE?
WHO CARES ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT, KYOUNOSUKE!?
YOU GOOF!
BAP
I AM TAKATSUGU KUWA, AND MY BOYFRIEND ...
BY WHICH I MEAN, I ALLOW IT!!
WHEN IT COMES TO YUU AND FOOD...
ANYTHING IS ALLOWED!
YUU KASUMI... EATS A LOT.
WHAT'S WRONG?
∞
YAY! FOOD!
HE HAS A BLACK HOLE OF A STOMACH FOR WHICH THREE MEALS A DAY AREN'T ENOUGH...

SIGN: 21ST START OF SCHOOL


I'M SO RELIEVED WE'RE IN CLASS TOGETHER FOR HIGH SCHOOL TOO!
1-D IS THIS WAY. COME WITH ME.
IT WOULDN'T BE GOOD IF I WEREN'T AROUND TO WATCH YOU.
EH!?

I DO. IT KINDA SMELLS LIKE MEAT...
SNIFF
SNIFF
?
YUU!
?
IDIOT!
WHY DID YOU BRING THAT HERE? HURRY AND EAT IT BEFORE THE TEACHER COMES!
AND YOU'RE TOO LAID-BACK!
IT'S FINE, SATO. DON'T WORRY SO MUCH!
PEEK
SO YUMMY!
CHOMP
IT WAS BEFORE THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR ASSEMBLY.
BUT YUU WAS CLEARLY ENJOYING A HUGE MEAT BUN.
THAT LOOKS GOOD
HE MUST BE SO HAPPY TO BE EATING SOMETHING THAT LOOKS SO DELICIOUS.
MM!
... I THOUGHT IDLY.

AND THEN I, WHO WAS JUST WATCHING,
SOMEHOW FELT HAPPY AS WELL.
THAT WAS WHEN
MRR?
I FELL IN LOVE WITH YUU.
SWEET.
CAN I?
I?
WANT A BITE?
YUU!
I?
SPLAT
HERE!

SNAP
BUT, Y'KNOW ...
WHY DON'T YOU GET FAT?
HAHA, I DON'T KNOW!
MRR...
FLIP
のそっ

WAAH!
WAIT TAKA, I WANT TO EAT ALL THE POCKY!
I DON'T WANNA WAIT!
POCKY TIME IS OVER!
BUT--
DON'T BUT ME!
HA HA
OR YOU COULO EAT ME!
IN-INSTEAD OF POCKY, EAT ME...
BLUSH
CHOMP
OUCH!!?
YOU'RE BITING ME!?
I CAN'T HELP IT, I'M ON THE TRACK TEAM!
I HAVE ONE YEAR BEFORE THE INTER-HIGH!
BUT I NEED FOOD!
BUT THIS WAY WE SPEND MORE TIME TOGETHER, SILLY!
WAIT, AM I NOT BEING EATEN !?
OWW!
DO YOUR BEST!
CHOMP CHOMP

HUG
YOUR SWEAT DOESN'T HAVE A TASTE, BUT IT'S SLIPPERY.
I LIKE THE SWEAT OF SPORTY GUYS.
I TOLD YOU NOT TO LICK ME...
BANG
TAP TAP TAP TAP
PHEW
HMM ...
SPLASH
IT SEEMS LIKE YOUR TIMES HAVE GOTTEN SLOWER LATELY.
WAS IT NO GOOD AGAIN...?
HMM...
WELL, WE STILL HAVE SOME TIME BEFORE THE BATTLE! YOU'LL GET THERE.
YOU'RE A GREAT RUNNER.
OKAY ...

TAKA!
MY BODY'S BEEN HEAVY LATELY...
OH, KYOU-NOSUKE!
I MUST GO!
SEE YOU LATER!
HOW'S YUU?
HE WENT HOME TALKING ABOUT A GLUTTON'S MENU AT THE SHOPPING DISTRICT.
OH, JEEZ.
AAAA..
HOW ARE YOU?
OKAY...
HE SAID
THE CHINESE PLACE HAD A GLUTTON'S MENU HE WANTED TO CHALLENGE.
I'M SURE HE'LL WIN..
OH, NAGARE, IS YOUR COMMITEE MEETING DONE?
HEALTH COMMITTEE
YEAH.

I'VE BEEN THERE WITH YUU! (ON A DATE)
NAGARE
IT IS. YOU KNOW IT?
HEY NAGARE, WAS THAT PLACE CALLED "TENSHIN?" COULD IT BE?
YOU GET HUGE SECOND HELPINGS OF FRIED RICE...
YOUR TIMES HAVE BEEN SLOW LATELY!
KUWA!
MY BODY IS HEAVY?
NO WAY!!
TAKA?
THAT WAS A SCARY FACE.
THERE IS NO MISTAKE !!
GOTTEN FAT!!?
THAT'S IT... I'VE...
CRACKLE
THUD
I NEVER REALIZED HOW MUCH I WAS EATING MYSELF.
SINCE YUU ALWAYS EATS A RIDICULOUS AMOUNT...

IF I DON'T GET A HOLD OF MY BODY... IT'LL BE BAD!!
FOR MY SAKE!
I NEVER EVEN NOTICED IT!!
LET'S GO TO INTER-HIGH, KUWAI
YEA!
TRACK COACH AND P.E. TEACHER KURARA KURAMATSU, AGE 52
CLACK
CLACK
SHIVER
SHIVER
BEING FED (LUNCH)
BECAUSE YUU ALWAYS EATS A STUPID AMOUNT OF FOOD ...
EATING ON A DATE↓ (DONBURI)
I STARTED TO EAT MORE AND MORE OVER TIME ...
EATING POCKY (CANDY)
IT WAS A TRICK !!

TAKA?
AREN'T YOU GOING TO EAT?
?
WHA!?
TWITCH
STARE
...
HE'S DROOLING ...
...
BREAD
BREAD
BREAD

YOU CAN EAT SOME, I HAVE PLENTY.
MM? UH...
HA HA HA
DAMN IT, THAT LOOKS REALLY TASTY!!
WHY DO I SEE EVERY-THING YUU EATS AS LOOKING TASTY!?
WELL, YUU ALSO IS SO CUTE I COULD EAT HIM UP...
ALL OF YUU'S FOOD AND YUU HIMSELF ALL LOOK SO TASTY!
SO GOOD
PANT
FEELING OF DESTRU-CTION
PANT
WHY DID HE HAVE TO GET SUCH TASTY THINGS?
AND YUU IS SO TASTY TOO AND WOAH! WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE!?
IS THAT BREAD REALLY THAT GOOD? I WANT SOME... AND I WANT TO BITE INTO YUU, TOO, IF I CAN!
NO, NO! WHY HAVE MY THOUGHTS GOTTEN SO CRAZY!? HMM?
HOLD IT!
WHAT I NEED TO DO NOW TO CONTROL MY BODY IS...
THAT WOULD BE... NO WAY!
COULD IT BE?
CLATTER
TAKA? WHAT'S WRONG?
ABSTI-NENCE?
HUH?
ACCIDENTS?

CHAOS
YUMMY THINGS LIKE YUU AND FOOD ARE FORBID-DEN!?
SO THAT MEANS ...
SHOCK
ROAR
CRASH!
NO CONTACT ...??
ABSTI-NENCE?
PATTER
STUNNED
WAAAH!
SO I CAN'T HAVE CONTACT!?
DAMN IT!
TAKA !?
SPRINT
WAAAAH!
UNTIL THE INTER-HIGH I HAVE TO STAY AWAY FROM YUU AND FOOD!
UNTIL THE INTER-HIGH I, HAVE TO STAY AWAY FROM YUU AND FOOD!
!?
WOAH
THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD
THUD

IT'S ALL FOR THE SAKE OF GOING TO INTER-HIGH!!
... TAKA.
YOU KNOW ...
COULD YOU NOT INCLUDE ME IN YOUR DIET?
ARE YOU THROWING AWAY OUR FRIENDSHIP?
SOB
SO COLD! KYDUND-SUKE, YOU JERK!
DON'T HIDE IN MY BED.
I MEAN, IT'S NOT MY FAULT. IT'S BECAUSE YOU ATE TOO MUCH
IT'S YUU'S CONSTI-TUTION!
SHOULDN'T EVERYONE GET FAT FROM GLUTTONY!? ESPECIALLY IN JAPAN?
カロロロ
IT'S NOT FAIR!!
YEAH, LIFE'S UNFAIR.
!?
EVEN THOUGH I LOVE YUU
WHO EATS SO DELICIOUSLY
...
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS HAPPENED.
SNIFF

I'M SORRY, YUU...
HEY...
YUU?
CLATTER
カチャ…
SATOAKI, SON OF A JAPANESE CHEF.
SLURP
TK
LOOK, I'M SURE TAKA IS JUST NERVOUS ABOUT THE UPCOMING INTER-HIGH.
IT HAS TO BE.
?
WE'RE NEIGHBORS, SO IT'S FINE! YOU'RE SO MEAN, SATOAKI!
YOU'RE THE ONE GIVING ME MORE!
COULD YOU BINGE EAT AT YOUR OWN HOUSE?
IT IS A DAY OFF AFTER ALL.
AND TAKA CAN DO WHATEVER HE WANTS!
THAT IDIOT!
TAKA...
SLOP
GOT FAT WITH ME?
COULD IT BE THAT HE...
THAT'S WHY HE SAID NO CONTACT...
RUSTLE
HA HA HA
IT'S POSSIBLE ... NO, IT'S CERTAIN.
HIC

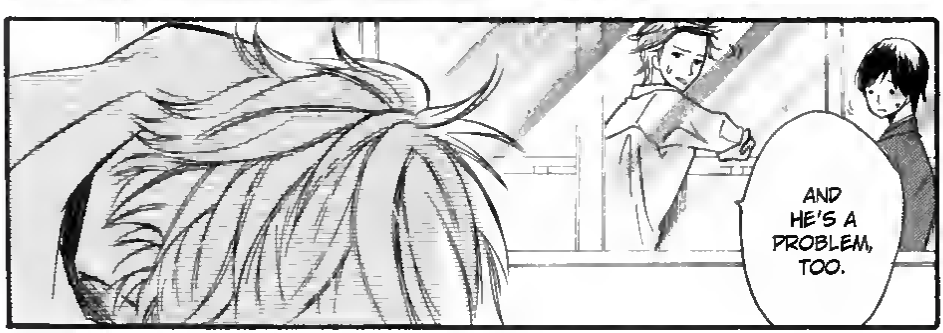
CLUNK
コト
DING
キーン
コーン
DONG
YUU,
A NORMAL AMOUNT WON'T BE NEARLY ENOUGH FOR YOUR STOMACH!
YOU'LL FAINT!
TA-TAKA GOT FAT SO YOU'RE EATING LESS?
WON'T HE FIGURE IT OUT?
...
WHAT'S WITH THE SIZE OF YOUR LUNCH?
IT'S A NORMAL SIZE, BUT NOT ENOUGH FOR YOU!
?
DON'T TELL TAKA.
HE'LL JUST WORRY.
...
YUU?
YUU!!
CHOMP
カジ
カジ
CHOMP

WOOSH
I HAVE TO RUN.
I HAVE TO RUN.
I HAVE TO RUN.
...
YOU'RE AMAZING! YOUR TIMES ARE GOING DOWN!
HOW!?
PANT
PANT
K-KUWA!?
BEEP
BUZZ
BUZZ
AH,
FOR SOME REASON ...
...
I REALLY WANT TO SEE YUU RIGHT NOW...

...
TAKA
NO GOOD!
CLAP
BECAUSE ONCE I TALK TO HIM I'LL JUST WANT TO SEE HIM.
THIS IS AN IMPORTANT TIME FOR TAKA.
IF I TEXT HIM IRRESPONSIBLY I'LL JUST DISTRACT HIM.
TAKA...
I'LL DO MY BEST.
I'LL DO MY BEST TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT I EAT AS WELL.
THAT WAY EVEN IF WE'RE TOGETHER HE WON'T GET FAT.
THE SOUND INSIDE HIS STOMACH
...
GROWL
RUMBLE
TWEET
POP
...

SHOCK
YUU.
FLASHBACK TO THE WEEK'S PAIN
SLEEPING ALONE
SOB
SNIFF
SNIFF
THUD THUD THUD
RUNNING
HUFF
HUFF
GASP
GASP
KUWA! YOU'RE FASTER!
BEATING STRESS DURING TRACK!
SHOUT!
WAH!
YUU WITHDRAWL SYMPTOMS
YUU.
YUU.

HE'S SUPER FAST THOUGH.
HIS RUNNING IS
YEP.
I SEE THE SHADOW OF DEATH.
SUPER SPEED
COACH
KUWA, AMAZING!
TAKA
WOOSH
WOOSH
HIS SPRINTING FORM IS STRANGE.
TAKA... IS DYING, ISN'T HE?


AND HE'S A PROBLEM, TOO.

EXHAUSTED
FLASHBACK OF THE WEEK'S PAIN
EAT!
DETERMINED TO HOLD OUT!
YOUR STOMACH IS GROWLING!?
I'M FULL.
I STILL HAVE MORE!
MOM
REDUCING FOOD INTAKE
DAMN IT!
CHOMP
CALMING HIS EMPTY STOMACH WITH SUPPLEMENTS
YUU, DO YOU WANT SOME RED BEAN BREAD?
TAKA... TAKA...
GRUMBLE
RUMBLE
FOOD... FOOD...
FODD & TAKA WITHDRAWL
THEY HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER IN A FEW DAYS.
SEEMS LIKE IT...
BIG BRO... WHY ARE THERE FIREFLIES? AM I DYING?
GRRR
IT'S LIKE GRAVE OF THE F**FLIES OVER THERE
THEY SEEM TO BE AVOIDING EACH OTHER BY SOME UNSPOKEN AGREEMENT..
THEY'RE AT THEIR LIMITS.
...
YUU...

YOU GOT A TEXT WHEN YOU WERE IN THE BATHROOM.
ORANGE PASTE
WHEN YOU WENT TO GO GET SOMETHING TO DRINK.
LOOKS LIKE YOU GOT A TEXT.
2008/
TAKA
Re
I WANT TO SEE YOU. I'LL BE WAITING AT THE PARK.
TAKA...
TEXT
2008/
From YUU
Subject Re
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY MORE! I WANT TO BE WITH YOU, TAKA! I'LL BE WAITING AT THE PARK.

YUU...
YUU!
KYOUNO-SUKE...
I'M...
GOING OUT FOR A BIT!!
SLAM
TMP

WOOSH
PANT
は
... YUU?
PANT
は
YUU?
SPIN きょろ
SPIN きょろ
SPIN
GASP
はっ

YUU!?
TAP TAP TAP
TAKA...
ARE YOU OKAY? YOU'RE PALE!
I HAVEN'T BEEN EATING LATELY.
SO I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD...
NOT EATING ...?
GASP
YUU...
YOU...

WERE YOU NOT EATING, JUST LIKE ME?
WHAT IF HE HAD STARVED?
WHAT IF I HE HAD HELD OUT UNTIL HE WAS EXHAUSTED?
THERE WERE SO MANY THINGS I WANTED TO SAY, BUT...
YOU'RE AN IDIOT ...
HUG
WE'RE IDIOTS.

WE CONTINUE TO RUN WITH EYES ON EACH OTHER...
BY NOW, WE'RE...

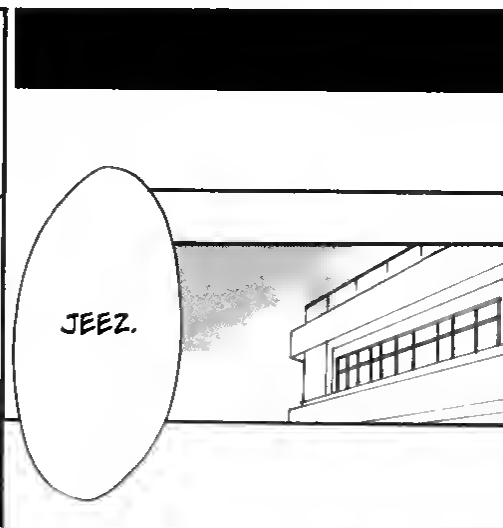
... HUNGRY, AREN'T WE?
CREAK
AH...
CREAK
AH...
CREAK
GASP
UH ...
GASP
HAH...
AH...
CREAK

CREAK
...
CREAK
AH...
MM...
AH...
CREAK
YUU,
DOES IT FEEL GOOD?
... YUU?
TAKA, YOU'RE ALWAYS SO CONCERNED ABOUT ME ...
HUH?
ALWAYS MAKING ME DO WHAT I WANT...
NOT LETTING ME HOLD BACK ...
TOUCH

IT'S AT TIMES LIKE THESE
YOU CAN EAT AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE.
YOU KNOW, YUU...
I'M FINE, OKAY?
I'VE ALWAYS RUN LIKE I WANTED TO.
I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR STICKING BY SOMEONE LIKE ME.

THAT'S WHY ALL I NEED FROM YUU ARE THOSE WORDS.
BECAUSE ...
ALWAYS CONTINUE RUNNING TOWARD YUU.
WILL, FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE,
THESE FEELINGS OF MINE

WE MAY HAVE ENGINEERED THOSE TEXTS, BUT IT'S FINE, RIGHT? AFTER ALL, IT TURNED OUT WELL.
HOW DO THEY MAKE UP WITH JUST ONE TEXT? THEY COMPLETELY STOPPED THEIR FIGHT.
WE WERE JUST WORRIED.
CULPRITS


JEEZ.

THAT'S WHAT'S FUN ABOUT IT.
I SUPPOSE SO.
IN THE END THEY JUST NEEDED TO BE TOGETHER.
THEY SURE ARE A HANDFUL.
THEY JUST WANT TO BE TOGETHER, I GUESS.
EVEN IF THEY DON'T DO THAT
TAKA WILL STILL MAKE IT...
THOUGH I'M NOT SURE HOW TO THINK OF THIS...
GO!
KUWA!
MUTUAL PRACTICE.
BUT THEY'RE SO HAPPY, SO ISN'T IT OKAY?
GO, TAKA!
YEAH!!
WOOOOSH
...
MORONS, THE PAIR OF THEM.
WE'LL KEEP RUNNING / END

THIRD PERIOD
THE CASE OF HINASE AND NAGARE
THIS IS A STORY FROM AROUND THE TIME WHEN TAKA AND YUU BEGAN DATING.
言葉のない僕たちは
ことばのない僕たちは
HEY.
WE HAVE NO WORDS

ONE MONTH AFTER ENTERING HIGH SCHOOL.
ARE THEY GOING OUT?
THIS IS KYOUNOSUKE HINASE.
AND THIS IS THE MOMENT THAT HE SPOKE OUT SPONTANEOUSLY.
... MOST LIKELY.

FOR NOW, JUST FOCUS ON WHAT YOU'RE EATING.
WHAT DO I DO?
SATO!
WHAT DO I DO? I FORGOT MY TREAT BAG!
AAAH!
THERE THERE
CLING
PET
YUU.
NICE!!
TAKA!
TODAY SWEET BREAD IS ON SPECIAL.
LET'S GO PICK UP SOME THINGS.
YEAH!
WELL, I WON'T BE GOING, SO YOU TWO HAVE FUN.
WAVE
WAVE

IT'S EASY TO UNDERSTAND.
IT SEEMS THAT CHILDHOOD FRIENDS
YAY
WHAT RE YOU GONNA BUY?
YAY
A TWIST DONUT!
THE ONE COVERED IN SUGAR?
HINASE AND SATOAKI NAGARE HAVE BEGUN DATING RECENTLY.
ME TOO.
WHAT ARE YOU HAVING FOR LUNCH?
I BROUGHT MINE.
ALTHOUGH THEY DON'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT THEMSELVES.
THEY'RE OPEN AND EASY TO UNDER-STAND.
NAGARE...
ARE YOU FREE TODAY?

TURN
メール
I'LL BE WAITING AT 8:30
AT THE USUAL PLACE
... AFTER 8 O'CLOCK...
...
HAVING BEEN CAUGHT UP IN BEING CHILDHOOD FRIENDS
IT HAD STARTED BEFORE THEY EVEN REALIZED IT.
BUZZ
メール
BUZZ
メール
WHOEVER ORDERED THE TOKIWA SPECIAL

SORRY FOR THE WAIT.
SATO-AKI...
MOM?
WHAT'S WRONG?
WE'VE BEEN REALLY BUSY TODAY, SO...
OH.
IT'S FINE, I'LL STAY.
SORRY ...
I'D LIKE TO ORDER, PLEASE!
TAP TAP
OKAY!
I...

AND HINASE DOESN'T HAVE MINE, EITHER.
DON'T HAVE HINASE'S PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS.
I FEEL LIKE IT'S PAST THE TIME WHERE I CAN ASK FOR IT.
AND UNCERTAIN SPOKEN PROMISES ARE ENOUGH.
SORRY FOR THE WAIT.
THANKS
IF I BREAK OUR PROMISE, HINASE WON'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

I DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING EITHER.
SINCE HINASE WON'T SAY ANYTHING
I'LL HAVE THE TEMPURA COMBO AND..
YES
BUZZ
BUZZ
EXCUSE ME, I'D LIKE TO ORDER SOMETHING ELSE!
OKAY!
BUZZ
BUZZ
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
ABOUT LAST NIGHT...
CHIRP
CHIRP

SATO'S FAMILY'S RESTAURANT WAS SUPER BUSY.
I THOUGHT I'D GO THERE TO EAT BUT I GAVE UP.
THERE WAS SOME VIP AT A HOTEL NEAR BY.
SO THAT'S WHY...
THAT'S GOOD, SATO!
YUU... YOU NEED TO WIPE YOUR MOUTH.
MM...
THAT RESTAURANT IS A FAMILY BUSINESS, ISN'T IT?
MY DAD IS THE THIRD TO RUN IT.
OOH!
I WANT TO GO THERE SOON!
THEY MAKE UDON, SOBA, AND TEMPURA.
YUMMY
LOVES JAPANESE FOOD
TAKA IS VERY HONEST.
TAKA, I'M GOING TO THE BATHROOM.
OKEY-DOKEY!
...

... YUU.
HM?
I FORGOT A DRINK SO I'M GOING TO BUY ONE.
TURN
RATTLE
THAT JUST NOW...
OH! BUY ME A BANANA MILK!
NAGARE! I WANT POKARI SWEAT!
OKAY, OKAY
WAS A SIGNAL.
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

IT WAS ONE MONTH AGO.
WHERE ARE WE?
A RELATIVE MANAGES IT.
IT'S AN OFFICE FOR RENT.
NO ONE IS RENTING THIS ROOM, SO I STAY HERE A LOT.
I EVEN BROUGHT A COUCH

SIDE
IT'S QUIET HERE
THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT IT.
キュッ
CREAK
THE FIRST TIME
STEP
I SLEPT WITH HINASE.

ARE YOU SCARED?
GRIP
イッ!!
YOU SEEM KINDA ROUGH.
... I GET THAT A LOT.
STUDENT COUNSELING OFFICE
AH...

MM...
UH...
GASP
TWITCH
SLIP
GASP
AH...
HINASE, WHO SEEMED LIKE THE TYPE TO HANDLE PEOPLE ROUGHLY,
WAS SURPRISINGLY GENTLE WHEN HE TOUCHED ME.

AND IT'S TRUE NOW TOO.
TOUCH
HINASE IS GENTLE.
I'M A BIT SCARED.
HAH...
TWITCH
PANT
PANT
MM...
HINASE DOESN'T SAY A WORD.
HE'S JUST GENTLE.
AND THAT'S A LITTLE...

ARE THEY DATING?
SCARY.
HEY.
... MOST LIKELY.
YOU SEEM TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT THE SUBJECT HINASE.
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL HE ASKED IF IT'D FEEL GOOD TO SLEEP WITH A GIRL.
BUT WE WERE JUST LITTLE KIDS...
THAT SPORTS MINDED TAKA
HAS STARTED STINKING LIKE A MAN.

SHOCK
ぴこーん
...
I'VE NEVER HAD SEX, SO I WOULDN'T KNOW
... I'VE DONE IT.
BUT YOU CAN'T REALLY CALL SEX BETWEEN MIDDLE SCHOOLERS, SEX.
IT WAS KINDA SCARY.
I'M SURPRISED. YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'D BE EXPERIENCED FOR SOME REASON.
IT'S BECAUSE MY PERSONALITY IS SO FRANK. MAYBE.
BUT I'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED THE FEELINGS OF LOVE FOR ANOTHER PERSON BEFORE.

GASP
はぁ
GASP
はっ
...
NAGARE.
ARE YOU OKAY?
...YEAH.
YOU CAN GO OVER TO TAKA AND YUU NOW.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
I'LL HEAD OVER LATER, YOU GO ON AHEAD.
STAGGER

... GO.
I THINK I MAY BE A WHILE IN THE BATHROOM.
SHF
I'LL BE FINE.
SCRUB
... BUT WILL YOU BE OKAY BY YOURSELF?
CRINKLE
...
NAGARE.
GRAB

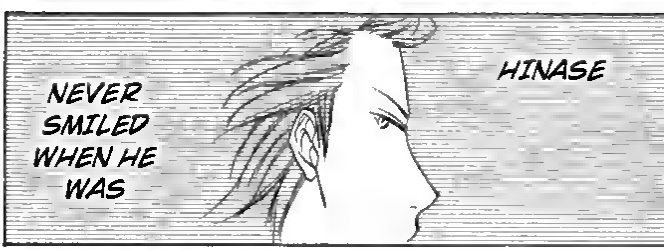
HINA-
...
SLAM
... WAIT,
HINASE!

I STARTED TO BECOME A LITTLE JEALOUS OF YUU.
YUU AND TAKA...
WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER AND SMILING.
HINASE!
SINCE I BEGAN MY RELATION-SHIP WITH HINASE,

WITH HINASE?

EVER ONCE SMILED

HAVE I



ALONE WITH ME.

STAAARE
...
WHA!?
... YUU, PLEASE STOP STARING AT ME LIKE THAT.
SHOCK
S-SORRY.
CHK
CHK
CHK
CHK
...
THANK YOU!
HERE'S SOME MORE TEMPURA. IT'S HOT.
OH, YUU! YOU'VE EATEN A LOT TODAY!
IT'S BECAUSE SATO'S FOOD IS YUMMY!
GINGER AND WASABI..
I NEED TO BUY SOME CONDI-MENTS...
PEEK
MOM, YOU'RE BOTHERING US!
SATO-AKI.
THANKS FOR HELPING ME COOK.

... HEY,
SATO.
YEAH?
WELL, THANK YOU.
HEH HEH
HE ALWAYS GIVES ME SECONDS SO IT'S OKAY!
COULD YOU GET GINGER AND LILY ROOT?
OKAY.
OKAY, I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
HUH?
... WHY?
ARE YOU GOING OUT WITH SOMEONE?
COULD IT BE?
!
THAT
BY YOUR HAIRLINE ...
YOU'VE GOT A HICKEY!
I MEAN ...
INNOCENT
BLUSH

IT'S YOU, SO IS HE OLDER?
HMMM...
DON'T LOOK AT ME ALL SPARKLY LIKE THAT
STAARE
HE MUST HAVE DONE THAT EARLIER TODAY.
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
UH...
HEY, WHAT'S HE LIKE?
I ALSO HAVE SOMEONE I LIKE! ♡
DUH
TAKA ...
HE WAS SUDDENLY
THE SECOND TIME AROUND
SPEAKING OF TODAY...
VIOLENT...
WHY...?
WE ARE... THE SAME AGE.
HUH?
NO WAY!
I WON'T DEFY YOU.
BUT WE DON'T TALK MUCH.
HUH!?
HOW!?
SO WE DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT EACH OTHER...

AND I NEVER KNOW WHAT WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT.
WE DON'T KNOW EACH OTHER'S PHONE NUMBERS OR ANYTHING.
AND WE DON'T SPEND MUCH TIME TOGETHER.
I'M SCARED OF BEING TREATED TENDERLY BY HINASE.
WE MAINLY SPEND OUR TIME TOGETHER IN SILENCE.
EVEN WHEN IT GETS ROUGH...
WHY AM I SO SCARED, I WONDER...
I DON'T KNOW WHY.
...SATO?

IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH HIM.
I MEAN,
YOU DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT HIM.
AND IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE UNHAPPY ABOUT THAT.
THAT YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HIM.
IT SOUNDS TO ME LIKE YOU'RE SAYING...

...
グッ

TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
CLICK
HINASE!
BIIIII
AAAM
YOU'RE OUT OF BREATH.
HINASE!
WHAT'S WRONG?
NAGARE ...?
はぁ
GASP
はぁ
GASP
TELL ME.

I...
SQUEEZE
DON'T KNOW ANYTHING BUT THIS.
I DON'T KNOW YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU LIKE OR WHAT YOU DON'T LIKE.
WHY...
WHY ARE YOU SO GENTLE WITH ME?
WHY DO YOU HOLD ME?
I DON'T KNOW, SO I WANT YOU TO TELL ME.

I...
GRAB
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ME?
I LOVE YOU, NAGARE.
I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU...
I'M SORRY I HAVEN'T SAID IT...
I KEPT THINKING THAT I SHOULD, BUT...

BECAUSE YOU SAID YOU'VE NEVER FELT LOVE FOR SOMEONE BEFORE...
I STARTED TO WANT TO MAKE YOU LOVE ME.
I WAS SCARED AND UNEASY.
I WAS IRRITATED AT MYSELF AND WAS SORTA ROUGH...
NOT KNOWING HOW YOU FELT...
I GOT IMPATIENT ABOUT THE PHYSICAL
AND MISSED THE TIME TO TELL YOU.
SORRY.
HINASE, I...
TO HEAR YOU SAY YOU LOVE ME.
AND SO VERY HAPPY

SEEING A SMILE ON THE FACE OF THE ONE I LOVE...
I LOVE YOU, HINASE.
MAKES ME HAPPIER THAN ANYTHING ELSE.
SO, IS THIS WHAT LOVE IS?
HUH?
CLICK
...
SEE?
HINASE ...
YOU KNEW MY PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS...?
RUSTLE
...WHY?
HOW DID YOU... ?
I MADE SURE TO ASK YUU FOR IT.
BECAUSE I KNEW TODAY WOULD BE THE DAY I'D SAY I LOVE YOU.

...AH.
SPEAKING OF, ABOUT THE REST-TAURANT...
SHF
ゴソ
FOR TODAY, AT LEAST, STAY WITH ME.
I WANT TO HAVE A PROPER CONVERSATION WITH YOU.
WE HAVE NO WORDS I END

CREAK
MEN'S ROOM
RATTLE
ガタン
CREAK
RATTLE
ガタン
AH...
KNOWING BUT PRETENDING NOT TO KNOW...
HAH...
IT'S NEVER BEEN MORE RELEVANT THAN NOW.
AAH...
CLATTER
CLATTER
SQUEAK
WELL, IN ANY CASE...
性悪な僕たちは
WE'RE AWFUL

性悪な僕たちは

しょうわるなぼくたちは

WE'RE AWFUL

THE CASE OF YOSHITAKE AND HARUKA

BEEP
1
2
3
4
PREPARE FOR EXERCISE!
RATTLE
RATTLE
HARUKA!
HM...?

SKIPPING CLASS? YOU DELINQUENT.
HEY.
YOSHI-TAKE.
WHAT'S WITH THE BAG?
I LEFT SCHOOL AND WENT TO THE STORE.
TO GET CANDY.
THEN YOU'RE THE DELINQUENT!
DESPITE THE GLASSES.
AHAHA.
GRUNT
AH.
MM?

AW, MAN...
YOU SURE DO.
NO WAY. DO I HAVE SOME?
TODAY WAS A BIT MORE ROUGH, HUH?
SHOCK
SO YOU WERE THE ONE WHO CAME INTO THE BATHROOM.
YOU'RE REALLY SOME-THING
TO KEEP GOING EVEN IF YOU NOTICED.
WE HAD GOTTEN PRETTY FAR ALONG.
THERE WAS NO STOPPING THEN.
YOSHITAKE IS QUITE A BRUTE; HIS EARNEST APPEARANCE DOESN'T SUIT HIM.
RUSTLE

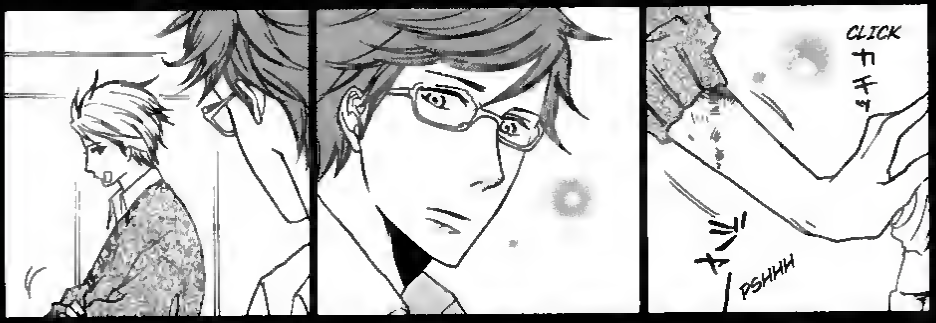
HE MAY BE A BRUTE,
BUT HE...
WON'T LAY A HAND ON ME.
...YOU'RE GROSS.
AHA HA.
WANT SOME SHRIMP?
WOAH!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE, HARUKA?
ARE YOU OKAY?
LOOKS PAINFUL.
JUST A LITTLE SIBLING RIVALRY.
MY BIG BRO BEAT ME UP.
WOAH, THAT'S HEAVY.
RATTLE
RATTLE
PEEK
YO! WHAT'S GOING ON IN HERE?
MORNIN'!

YO.
YOSHI-TAKE.
LOOK, HARUKA'S FACE IS ALL BRUISED.
HE SAID IT WAS A FIGHT WITH HIS BROTHER.
STEP
STEP
I CAME TO CHANGE YOUR BANDAGES.
STEP

HEY, YOSHI-TAKE.
I BOUGHT SOME POCARI SWEAT.
MM. THANKS.
DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER INJURIES?
TELL ME IF THEY'RE ON YOUR ARM OR STOMACH OR SOMETHING.
I HAVE EXTRA BANDAGES.
PFT.
CRINKLE
ガサッ

I'M JUST SAYING THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE INJURIES WHERE YOU CAN'T SEE THEM.
CRINKLE
BANDAGE
WHAT!? I'M TRYING TO HELP YOU!
IT'S JUST THAT YOU SLEEP AROUND SO MUCH.
HAHAHA.
DIDN'T THINK YOU THE TYPE TO WANT TO HELP.
OUCH.
...
DON'T YOU REMEMBER OUR CONVER-SATION FROM HALF A YEAR AGO?
...
YEP.
THAT'S WHEN WE STARTED HANGING OUT.
OUCH! OUCH!
RIP
DEAL WITH IT.
AGH!
I HAD SKIPPED CLASS BACK THEN, TOO.
I DIDN'T WANT TO BE FOUND BY THE TEACHER SO I WANDERED AROUND, BUT THEN I HAD TO PISS.
TWITCH
SPASMING
...
BUT...

IN THE BATHROOM THAT I RUSHED INTO...
MEN'S
THEY'RE BLOCKING THE URINALS...
...
A BRUTISH ACT.
WITH HIS PARTNER.
WAS YOSHI-TAKE, IN THE MIDDLE OF
THIS IS NO GOOD, I THOUGHT.
DON'T PEOPLE USUALLY DO THIS IN PRIVATE?
PLUS IT'S TWO GUYS...
THIS IS KINDA BOLD.
KIDS THESE DAYS...
BUT I WANTED TO RELIEVE MYSELF, SO...
I'LL BE OUT SOON.
POKER FACE
... YOU CAN GO ON.
I DON'T MIND.
I PRETENDED LIKE I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING.



HARUKA MUKAWA OF CLASS 2-F?

AFTER THAT, THE BEAST IN THE RESTROOM BECAME INTERESTED IN ME.

YOU NEED SOMETHING?
YEAH. WELL...
GRUNT
RUSTLE
TOILET GUY?
ISN'T THAT KINDA UNCOOL?
... YOU'RE... FROM THE EARLIER TOILET GUY?
RUSTLE
I BROUGT YOU SOME BANDAGES. HERE YOU GO
ARE YOU HURT? YOU'VE GOT A BIG BRUISE ON YOUR ARM.
MY NAME IS YOSHITAKE HAKOZAKI.

NICE TO MEET YOU.
THE ONLY TIME HE EVER ACTUALLY TOUCHED ME
WAS THAT TIME AND THAT TIME ALONE.
HARUKA, ARE YOU OKAY?
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, DON'T YOU WORRY.
TAKE CARE OF MOM FOR ME.
I'M FINE, AUNTIE.
IF NASSHIGE GOT VIOLENT YOU COME RIGHT OVER HERE.
THE BURDEN OF KEEPING HIM IN CHECK WHEN HE RAMPAGES WOULD GO TO MOM.
I WANT TOO, BUT IT'S TOO MUCH.
LEAVE NASSHIGE ALONE.
I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT THAT.
SOCIETY PRETENDS LIKE THEY DON'T KNOW. EVEN WHEN THEY DO.
IF YOU GO UP AGAINST HIM, IT WILL NEVER END.
HARUKA.
ANYWAY, IF ANYTHING HAPPENS YOU COME STRAIGHT HERE.
YOUR MOM IS WORRIED AS WELL.
OKAY.
WE DON'T HAVE ANY CIGS.
OR BOOZE.

... SO?
CLACK
GO BUY IT, DUH.
WHERE'S MOM? HER SON HAS COME BACK AFTER HALF A YEAR.
...
HEY.
ANSWER MY QUESTION.
I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY TO YOU.

*SIGN: DRUGSTORE

HMM, THE LEFT SIDE OF YOUR FACE IS IN QUITE A STATE.
DOES YOUR EYE HURT? HOW IS YOUR EAR?
MY EYE IS FINE. MY EAR IS RINGING.
NONSTOP.
... DID YOUR BROTHER COME HOME?
YEP.
OW.
FWP
FWD
IS YOUR MOTHER ALRIGHT?
I HAD HER GO TO MY AUNT'S HOUSE.
SHE'S FINE.

... FOR NOW, YOU SHOULD STAY HERE TONIGHT.
IT WOULDN'T BE GOOD IF SOMETHING HAPPENED.
... SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE.
IT'S FINE. ANYWAY...

SIIH
YOU SHOULD GO TO THE HOSPITAL TOMORROW.
HAVE THEM TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR EAR AND ARM.
ARE YOU OKAY?
... YOU'LL NEED STITCHES ON YOUR ARM. THAT'S WHAT MY UNCLE SAID.
YEP.
YEP. MY BODY STINGS AND I CAN'T SLEEP.
I'M NOT GOING TOSCHOOL TOMORROW.
HURTS TOO MUCH TO MOVE.
HIS WIFE IS IN LABOR AT THE MOMENT.
SO I'M HERE TO HELP OUT.
BUT THIS DRUG STORE'S OWNER
IS YOUR UNCLE? WHAT A SMALL WORLD.

... HEY, DID YOUR BROTHER DO ALL OF THAT?
THE INJURIES, I MEAN.
DO I LOOK LIKE THE TYPE TO ENJOY HURTING MYSELF?
... NO.

SHHH
SHHHH
... SO YOU PITY ME?
NO!

I UNDER-STAND.
... THAT'S RIGHT. ME AND YOSHITAKE...
BOTH HAVE THINGS WE PRETEND LIKE WE DON'T KNOW.
FOR EXAMPLE IF I GO TO THE BATHROOM RIGHT BEFORE 5TH PERIOD BEGINS LIKE ALWAYS
YOSHITAKE WILL BE IN THERE HAVING SEX WITH SOMEONE, JUST LIKE USUAL.
I ENTER THE BATHROOM KNOWING THIS.

KNOWING THAT, I SKIP CLASS.
AND IF I HAPPEN TO SKIP CLASS AND WANDER TO THE BACK OF THE ROOF
YOSHITAKE WILL CERTAINLY COME JOIN ME.
AND THOUGH I NOTICED THAT YOSHITAKE, WHO LET OFF A BIT OF IMMATURITY AFTER SEX,
I DECIDED IT WAS JUST MY IMAGINATION.
LOOKED AT ME WITH AN EXPRESSION THAT SEEMED TO SAY HE WANTED TO TELL ME SOMETHING ...

YOSHITAKE'S FEELINGS AND MY FEELINGS...
I PRETENDED LIKE I DIDN'T KNOW ANY OF IT.
SPLASH
SPLASH
THOUGH I PRETENDED LIKE I HADN'T NOTICED THEM...
SHHH
SQUEEZE
IF I WERE TO BE TOUCHED BY HIM...
SPLASH
THEN I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO HIDE IT, WOULD I?
THAT I AM ...

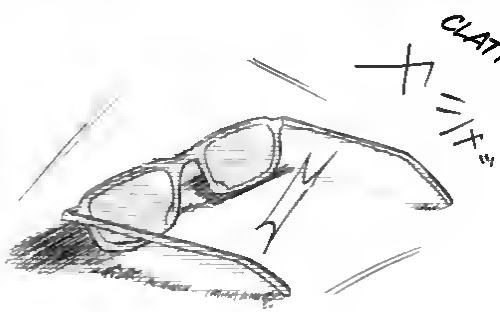
...IN LOVE WITH YOU.
...
BLUSH

SHOCK
...
THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
... I NEED YOU SO OFTEN THAT IT SCARES ME.
!
... WITH THAT KISS JUST NOW...
I'VE JUST SHOWN MY HAND.
DO YOU ...

... YOU'RE SERIOUS?
REJECT ME?
YOU'RE NOT LYING?
DO YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT'S BEEN TO HOLD MYSELF BACK!?
TAKE IT BACK!
SO TO KEEP YOU FROM BEING DISTRACTED BY OTHERS
I DIDN'T TOUCH YOU.
YOU...
I NOTICED THAT WHEN I TOUCHED YOU, I TAINTED YOU.

BECAUSE IF I TOUCHED YOU, I WOULD DESTROY YOU!
YOU WANT ME, DON'T YOU?
I JUST WANTED TO BE NICE.
MY HOBBY IS HUGGING INJURED PEOPLE.
YOSHITAKE.
THAT'S WHY YOU HUGGED ME, ISN'T IT?
PAT
なで
PAT
なで

DON'T BE AFRAID.
HEY...
YOSHI-TAKE...
BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.
SLAM
THUD
...



SORRY THAT I'M SO AWFUL.

BUT WE'RE ALIKE IN THAT. RIGHT, MR. SCAREDY BRUTE?
... HAH.
OW ...
... DAMN.
YOU HAVE TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL TOMORROW, SO I CAN'T LEAVE ANY HICKEYS.
THEN LEAVE THEM WHERE THE DOCTOR WON'T SEE.
WHAT'S WITH YOU? YOU'RE BEING REALLY SHY.
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU AT ALL.

I WANT TO BE KIND TO THE ONE I LOVE, AT THE VERY LEAST.
DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER THAT I WOULD BE GENTLE
WHEN YOR BODY IS HURTING?
FOR A LONG TIME
THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO NOTICED AND CARED ABOUT MY INJURIES WERE MY MOM AND THE GUY AT THE DRUG STORE.
... YOU'RE RIGHT, IT DOES.
BUT ...

YOU NOTICED.
WITHIN YOUR WARMTH
I FELT RELIEF FROM THE DEPTHS OF MY HEART.

HEY.
YO.
THOUGH HE'LL PROBABLY BE BACK BEFORE LONG ...
OH, REALLY?
PHEW
OH YEAH... MY BROTHER LEFT YESTERDAY.
WILL YOU COME TO MY APARTMENT?
HARUKA.

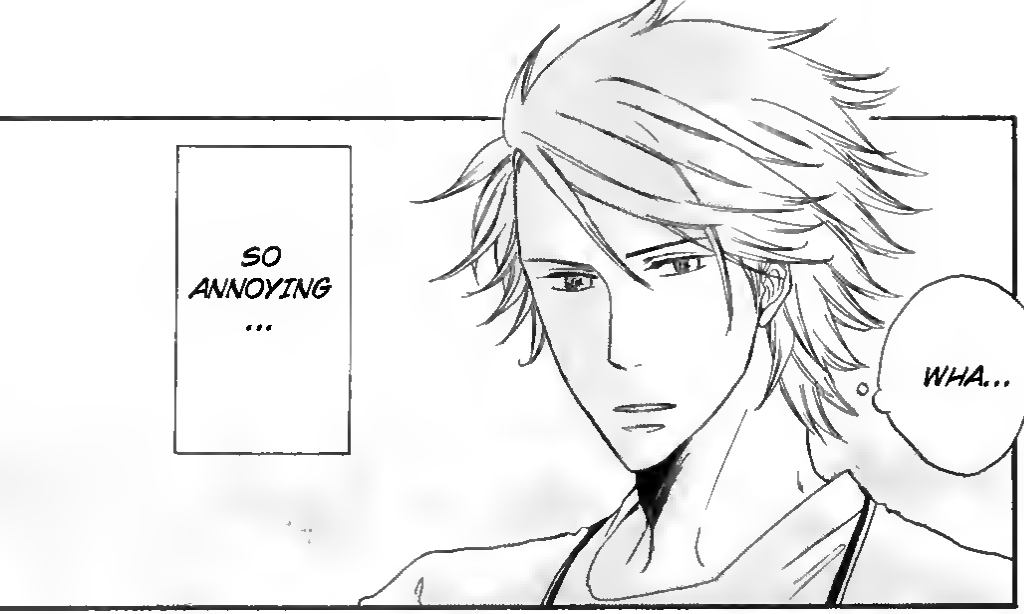
... HUH?
COME?
MM!
I ASKED MY MOM AND SHE SAID YOU COULD COME MOVE IN. I'LL HELP YOU.
HUH?
TO DATE SOMEONE AWFUL IS AWFUL ITSELF.
BUT YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE.
MY PARENTS ARE LANDLORDS!
BECAUSE WE HAVE AN EMPTY ROOM.
AH?
OKAY?
THEN WE CAN DO ALL SORTS OF THINGS.
HEY ...
SLIP
SLIP
I CAN'T HOLD BACK ANY MORE.
YOU'RE MORE WORK THAN I THOUGHT...
WE'RE AWFUL / END

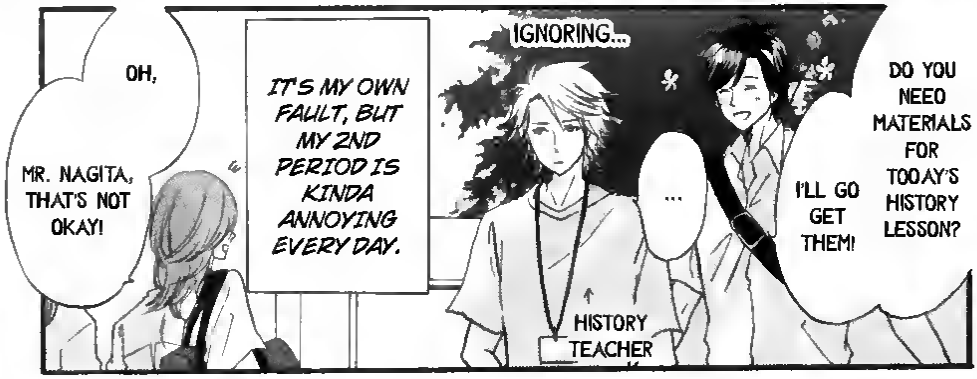
MR. NAGITA!
MR. NAGITA!
YOU KNOW, I HATE BEING CALLED CUTE BECAUSE I'M LITTLE.
OH, REALLY? IT DOESN'T MATTER, THOUGH, DOES IT?
IT'S TRUE AFTER ALL.
DON'T SAY IT SO CASUALLY!

5'10"
I WANT TO GROW BIG LIKE YOU SOME DAY...
TAKEMIYA, YOU'RE A FRESHMAN, RIGHT?
YOU'LL GROW SOON.
SOME PEOPLE GROW AFTER THEY'RE 20
... AND IF I DON'T?
4'8"

HMM.
IT MIGHT HAPPEN.
IF YOU DON'T...
WANT ME TO TAKE CARE OF YOU?

GOOD MORNING, MR. NAGITA!
MR. NAGITA!
TAP
恋しかできない僕たちは
こいしかできないぼくたちは
WE CAN ONLY LOVE
5TH PERIOD
THE CASE OF TAKEMIYA AND NAGITA


SO ANNOYING ...
WHA...


OH,
MR. NAGITA, THAT'S NOT OKAY!
IT'S MY OWN FAULT, BUT MY 2ND PERIOD IS KINDA ANNOYING EVERY DAY.
IGNORING...
...
HISTORY TEACHER
I'LL GO GET THEM!
DO YOU NEED MATERIALS FOR TODAY'S HISTORY LESSON?

SWP
TAKEMIYA ONLY LIKES MR. NAGITA, DOESN'T HE?
OH MY GOD!
TAKAMIYA IS SO CUTE WHEN HE BLUSHES!
I'LL TAKE A PHOTO!
BEEP
...

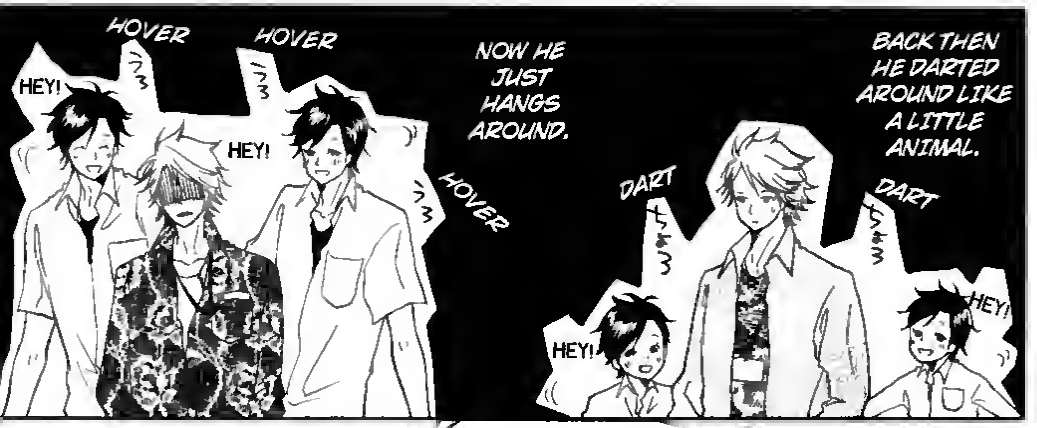
6'1"
5'10"
YOU'RE IGNORING HIM AGAIN!
GIVE HIM AN ANSWER!
BUT HE'S ANNOYING
NUDGE
MORNIN!
YOU TWO ARE AS TALL AS EVER!
NUDGE

HE'S A PAIN, SO I END UP SPEAKING BLUNTLY AND EVASIVELY.
I GET TOLD OFF FOR DOING IT OFTEN.
BUT I'M KIND OF REGRETTING IT RIGHT NOW.
HEY, CAN I SAY SOMETHING?
YOU KNOW...
YOU'VE TOTALLY CHANGED.
YOU WERE REALLY KIND TO ME WHEN I WAS A FRESHMAN.
BUT LATELY YOU'VE BEEN NEGLECTING ME...
IT'S JUST YOUR IMAGINATION.
BLUNTLY

IT....
IT IS NOT MY IMAGIN-ATION!
YOU...
YOU NEVER TOLD ME I WAS IN THE WAY, SO I SHOULD SIT NEXT TO THE WALL WHEN I WAS A FRESHMAN!
IT'S 'CUZ YOU WERE LITTLE THEN.
YOU WEREN'T IN THEWAY.
DOING AS HE WAS TOLD
AND YOU FOLLOW-ING ME AROUND NOW IS ANNOY-
BUT!
YOU TOLD ME YOU WOULD TAKE CARE OF ME DURING MY SECOND YEAR!
SHOCK
WIBBLE
YOUR WORDS ARE MY SUSTE-NANCE EVEN NOW...!
I'M GONNA STAND..
DON'T YOU EVEN REMEMBER WHAT I SAID?
YOU DON'T GET TO DECIDE WHEN TO STAND.
MY ANSWER TO TAKEMIYA WHO ASKED, "WHAT IF I DON'T GROW NEXT YEAR?"
WANT ME TO TAKE CARE OF YOU
IF THAT HAPPENS?

WOOF
AS MY PET.
I MEANT I'D TAKE CARE OF YOU AS MY PET IF YOU DIDN'T GROW TALLER.
EVEN THOUGH I GOT BIG, PLEASE STILL TAKE CARE OF ME AS YOUR PET!
WHERE IS YOUR PRIDE AS A HUMAN BEING?

I DON'T WANT A PET THAT'S BIGGER THAN ME...
ANSWERING LIKE A TEACHER
I'LL DO ANYTHING! I'LL COOK, CLEAN, DO LAUNDRY, EVEN SEW...!
...
THAT'S A WIFE, NOT A PET.
MY WORDS THAT DAY WERE THE BEGINNING OF TAKEMIYA CLINGING TO ME.


HOVER
HEY!
HOVER
HEY!
HOVER
NOW HE JUST HANGS AROUND.
BACK THEN HE DARTED AROUND LIKE A LITTLE ANIMAL.
DART
HEY!
DART
HEY!

MR. NAGITA IS GETTING TIRED...
SIGH
IS IT TIME TO GO HOME YET?

PICK ME!
IF YOU'RE TIRED, WHY DON'T WE HAVE LUNCH NOW!?
PANT
PANT
SLAM!!
GRR
GRUMBLE
1-D YUU KASUMI
KASUMI, IT'S ONLY SECOND PERIOD. HELL HAS JUST BEGUN.
THIS IS A VERY BASIC QUESTION
GRRR
GRR
UH!?
OKAY, LET'S REVIEW. Q: WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION CREATED TO TAKE THE PLACE OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF STATE IN 1885?
H-HELP ME, TAKA!
GRR
GRRR
KUWA IS DREAMING THAT HE'S THE ROADRUNNER.
THAT'S TOO BAD. ALSO, YOUR STOMACH IS NOISY.
UH... SATO?
IT'S IN THE TEXTBOOK! WHATEVER, NAGARE, ANSWER IT.
SEKHMET
1-D KYOUNOSUKE HINASE
EXACTLY.
IT WAS THE CABINET.
OH
OH
GRR
1-D SATOAKI NAGARE
I'LL ONLY SAY THIS ONCE.
THIS WILL BE ON THE TEST...
GOT IT, KUWA!?
YES!
I'LL RUN ANOTHER LAP!
TODAY IS JAPANESE HISTORY!
SLAM
1-D TAKATSUGU KUWA

HE THINKS THAT I AM ANNOYING ...
BUT HE THINKS THE STUDENTS ARE CUTE.
GOOD WORK, RUNNING EVEN IN YOUR DREAMS.
JAPANESE HISTORY B
KUWA, TAKE A LOOK AT HINASE'S NOTES LATER, OKAY?
YES SIR!
WE'RE GOING TO THE NEXT PAGE, LISTEN UP!
YEAH, I'M OUT OF THE LOOP WHEN IT COMES TO TRUE LOVE.
SEES THEIR GIMMICK
HE ALWAYS KNOWS RIGHT AWAY WHEN STUDENTS ARE GETTING ALONG WELL OR DATING EACH OTHER.
IT'S CUTE.
KYOUNO-SUKE, GIMME YOUR NOTES.
NAGARE'S WOULD BE EASIER TO READ...
HUNGRY ...
YUU, HOLD ON!
I'M PRETTY WORN OUT NOW.
TAP
TAP
STATE

MR. NAGITA, YOU'RE AN ALUMNI OF THIS HIGH SCHOOL, RIGHT?
HE SAID HE SCOLDED YOU A LOT IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM...
OH, KURARA? HE WAS MY HOMEROOM TEACHER FOR MY THIRD YEAR.
RUMMAGE
HM? WHO TOLD YOU?
I KEPT IT QUIET.
IT'S BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED THERE IN THIRD YEAR.
...
3-A TOORU HAGURI
KURARA (PE TEACHER)
HE TOLD ME IN P.E.
MR. KURA-MATSU.
RUMMAGE
REFRESHINGLY CAREFREE
OH! I FOUND YOU!
MR. NAGITA, LISTEN! I DECIDED TO GET EXTRA LESSONS DURING SUMMER VACATION!
I WAS JUST TOLD!
2-G RYOUSUKE GINKAWA
HAGU-SENPAI!
DOESN'T THAT PRESENCE FEEL LIKE GINKAWA?
HMM?
TAP TAP

OH, HERE'S A REPORT ON ALL THE STUDENTS ACCEPTED TO T UNIVERSITY.
MAKE A COPY AND PUT IT ON MY DESK IN THE TEACHER'S LOUNGE.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
OKAY.
HUH?
WHAT WAS IT?
HUH?
HOVER
HOVER
... I WAS A PROBLEM CHILD IN A DIFFERENT WAY FROM GINKAWA.
BUT I WAS SMART, SO I BECAME A TEACHER.
HUH!? WHAT ARE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT!?
...
DVERLY STUPID PROBLEM CHILD
MR. NAGITA.
THESE GUYS ARE PRICKLY.
KINDA CUTE
WOULD YDU SHUT UP!?
HELP ME!
SMACK
HAGU-SENPAI ...
I FORGOT MY PAPER AT HOME. CAN I TURN IT IN NEXT WEEK?
HEY, NAGI.
IS IT OKAY IF I TURN IN MY REPORT THAT WAS DUE WEDNESDAY?
EVEN THOUGH IT'S FRIDAY.
2-I YOSHITAKE HAKOZAKI
2-F HARUKA MUKAWA

I'M TOO YOUNG, I CAN'T!
I DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF MONEY
A TEACHER CAN'T TELL ME TO DO THAT!
SWEET! THANKS, NAGI.
I'LL TREAT YOU TO SOMETHING.
GET ME CIGS.
←ATTRACTED TO WIFE
NAGI
THANK YOU.
YEAH. IT'S FINE.
JUST ANNOYING.
THESE GUYS ARE LIKE OVER-BEARING WIVES. PROBABLY
↑WIFE.
OH, JEEZ.
GINKAWA! HURRY UP AND DO YOUR PAPER!
ROAR
IDIOT!
HUH?
FWP
FWP
GINKAWA, IT'S DUE ON MONDAY NEXT WEEK.
PLUS ANSWERS.
HUH?
YO, YOSHITAKE, HARUKA! WHAT'S THIS ABOUT A REPORT?
WAS THERE ONE?
RATTLE
SORRY TO HAVE BOTHERED YOU!
HAHAHA, POOR GINKAWA.
C'MON, LET'S GO!
UGH.
LOOK WHO'S TALKING, YOSHI-TAKE
HAGU-SENPAI, THAT HURT!
RATTLE

NAGITA IS HERE
THAT'S TAKEMIYA.
IS HE IN P.E.?
A GIRL CAME UP TO TALK TO HIM AND HE'S GETTING ALL RED.
TAKEMIYA, YOU'RE SO TALL! WHY?
TEACHER, NO FAIR!
HEY!
WOULD ALWAYS HIDE BEHIND ME WHEN THAT HAPPENED.
THAT'S RIGHT, HE...
AND THEN EVERY DAY HE...
WHEN HE WAS SHORT, THE GIRLS WOULD FAWN OVER HIM LIKE HE WAS A DOLL.
CUTE!
SO CUTE AND SMALL!
HMPH

HIS BODY MAY HAVE GROWN BUT INSIDE HE IS STILL THE SAME LITTLE BOY.
TAP
TAP
MR. NAGITA!
LET'S WALK HOME TOGETHER!
FOR A BIT.
I GUESS THAT'S OKAY...
WON'T YOU BE GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY?
WE LIVE IN DIFFERENT AREAS...
WEST
EAST
YEP.
BUT I DON'T MIND...
NOT AT ALL!
I WANT TO WALK HOME WITH YOU!

BYE BYE!
TAKE CARE GOING HOME!
WE WILL!
SQUEEZE
TWITCH
OH!
IT'S MR. NAGITA AND TAKEMIYA!
SO, LET'S HEAD OUT!
WHEN HE SAYS IT THAT WAY, I CAN'T SAY NO.
THIS IS...
STAB
TEACHER'S HEART
S-
SORRY, MR. NAGITA.
IT'S JUST A HABIT NOW...
SENIOR
TAKE-MIYA...
YOU NEED TO GRADUATE FROM HIDING BEHIND ME.
AND GRADUATE FOR REAL.
... MORE IMPORTANTLY, TURN IN YOUR FINAL CAREER CHOICES WORKSHEET.
AH...
EVEN SO, YOU RELY ON ME TOO MUCH.
BUT YOUR BACK IS THE SAFEST.
HMPH.
WHAT A LUXURY.
SO NOW I'M AFRAID OF GIRLS...
THE GIRLS HARASSED ME WHEN I WAS SMALL...
IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T LIKE THEM ...

OKAY...
HOMEROOM TEACHER →
YOU'RE THE LAST ONE TO TURN IT IN.
IT'LL BE SUMMER BREAK SOON.
I HAVE TO GO THIS WAY NOW ...
THIS WAY →
OH REALLY?
NAGITA THIS WAY
TAKE CARE.
OKAY.
THINK IT OVER.
WAVE
ブン
ブン
WAVE
LET'S DO THIS AGAIN SOME TIME!
OH, MR. NAGITA!

TOUCH
GO STRAIGHT HOME.
OKAY!
BYE BYE!
TWITCH
OH ...
OH! IT'S MR. NAGITA AND TAKEMIYA!
THEY'RE WALKING TOGETHER!
THEY GET ALONG WELL.
SQUEEZE

SHOULDN'T I HAVE PUT A STOP TO THIS BY NOW?

FWD
FUTURE GOALS CHECK-IN
SUSUMU TAKEMIYA, CLASS 3-E
SO ANNOYING...
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
ALRIGHT!
FLIP

* THE SOUND OF CICADAS
MEEE
MEEE*
TA-
KE-
MI-
YA!
STUDENT COUNSELING OFFICE
I SAID IT BEFORE...
I'M DRIED UP, TOO.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO HASN'T DECIDED ON THEIR CAREER GOALS.
AND YOU HAVEN'T TURNED IN THE SHEET.
THIS IS THE LIMIT.
WE'RE ABOUT TO START SUMMER BREAK.
MY...
S...
SORRY ...
DON'T SAY SORRY, JUST TURN IT IN!
MY NUMBER ONE WISH IS TO BE TAKEN CARE OF BY YOU!!

HONEST
IS HE REALLY GOING TO SAY SOMETHING SO STUPID EVEN NOW ...?
HE HAD A SENSE OF IMPENDING DOOM
HEY, TAKEMIYA.
YES!?
I NEED TO SAY IT NOW.
FOR HIS SAKE, AS WELL...
I'M SURE THE FUTURE SEEMS VERY FAR AWAY TO YOU,
BUT THIS IS REALLY IMPORTANT.
THINK ABOUT IT SERIOUSLY.
THAT SORT OF ARRANGEMENT...
AN "HONEST TEACHER" WOULD SAY THIS:

IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN.
IF I'M NOT "HONEST"...

... I...
UNDER-
STAND
...
I WILL
FILL OUT
THE
SHEET.
AND DO IT
SERIOUSLY.
SORRY
FOR THE
TROUBLE.
I'LL BE
LEAVING
NOW.
CLATTER
カタン
HUH...?

WHAT IS THIS?
FWP
WHY?
I SHOULD BE HAPPY ABOUT THIS, BUT...
STAB

TAKEMIYA, WAIT -
SLAM
TA...

BAM
!?
TAKE-MIYA!?
6'1"
UGH..
HEY, ARE YOU OKAY!?
THAT WAS REALLY LOUD!
LET ME SEE WHERE YOU HIT YOUR...
WOOSH
HEAD...
THUD
WAH!?

I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU!
IT'S TRUE...
... I KNOW.

YOU NEVER MADE FUN OF ME, BUT LOOKED IN MY EYES AND SAID THOSE WORDS.
"WANT ME TO TAKE CARE OF YOU?"
WHEN I WAS SHORT, THE GIRLS FAWNED OVER ME, BUT IT WAS HALF-TEASING.
SINCE THEN... I'VE FELT AT EASE.
TAKEMIYA ISN'T A BAD KID.
WATCHING ME FOR THREE YEARS.
THAT'S WHAT MAKES HIM PURE.
HE'S HONEST, AND HAS BEEN WHOLE-HEARTEDLY

I KNEW THESE THINGS.
WHEN DID...
HIS HANDS GET SO BIG?
HE HAS ALWAYS
BEEN REACHING OUT
TO ME AND ME ALONE.
I'M GONNA BE A BOTHER, AREN'T I?

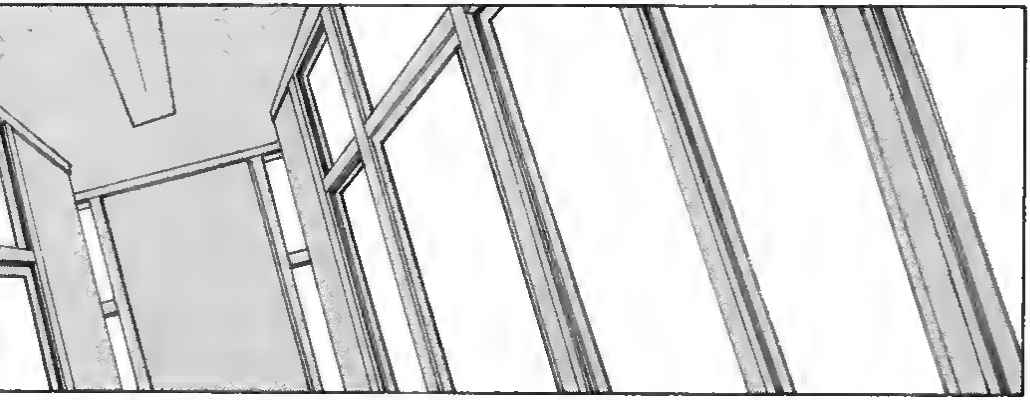
THAT I NEVER FOUGHT IT THESE THREE YEARS ...
...
TAKE-MIYA.
I GUESS I HAVE TO...
GIVE YOU AN ANSWER.
HUH!?
COUGH
KICK
OW!
WHACK
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
UGH...
GETTING KICKED HURT.

THE NIGHTS ARE GOING TO BE AMAZING, Y'KNOW?
I'LL JUST PUT THIS OUT THERE NOW: I'VE COME TO LIKE SEX TO BE ROUGH.
TWITCH
ボスン
IF YOU LOVE ME, YOU'LL USE TECHNIQUES TO MAKE ME FAINT.
I'M COUNTING ON YOU.
YOU'RE STRONG, SO WE CAN GO THREE ROUNDS EACH TIME.
YOU CAN EVEN TOP ME.
←HONEST
UWAH !?
LICK
YOU REALLY ARE PURE, YOU SILLY.
LOVERS HAVE SEX, OBVIOUSLY.
IT'S IMPORTANT.
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
ISN'T HOLDING HANDS THE FIRST STEP IN DATING!?
WAH !?

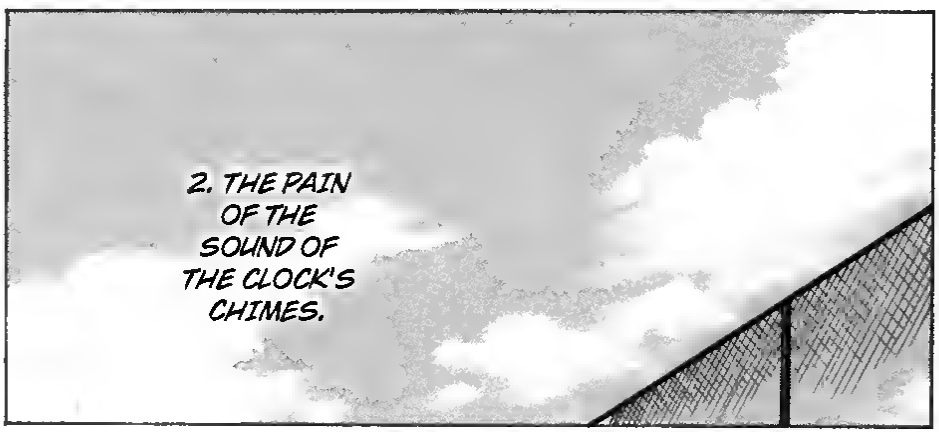
THAT'S WHAT I'M SAYING.
THMP
BUT... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO MAKE YOU FAINT...
THAT KIND OF...
I'LL BE YOUR TEACHER, EVEN BETWEEN THE SHEETS.
FLAP
FUTURE GOALS CHECK-IN
SUSUMU TAKEMIYA, CLASS 3-E
...
THE NEXT DAY ...

TWITCH
GLARE
MR. NAGITA FROM 10 YEARS AGO, HIS DELINQUENT PERIOD
BRING IT!
SMILE
UH-OH... YOU'VE AWAKENED THE "POISON SCORPION OF PARTICIPATION" VERSION OF MYSELF...
SORRY, KURAMATSU.
WEREN'T YOU TAKING A STUDENT TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE?
WAS NAGITA'S TEACHER
OH?
MR. NAGITA, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU DID 10 YEARS AGO!
DON'T GLARE AT STUDENTS.
YOU'RE A TEACHER NOW.
HEH
HE MAY CAUSE ME A LOT OF PROBLEMS, BUT...
I'M SORRY FOR SURPRISING YOU...
I'M ALSO SERIOUSLY STUDYING FOR COLLEGE ENTRY EXAMS..
AND FOR NOT TURNING IN THE PAPER FOR SO LONG ...
S-SORRY, MR. NAGITA.
UM... I...

FWP
FLOP
... GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT.
... OKAY!
WILL YOU GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT IN BED, TOO?
SHH!
THIS IS THE TEACHER'S LOUNGE!
IF LOVE IS THERE...
FUTURE GOALS CHECK-IN
SUSUMU TAKEMIYA, CLASS 3-E
DREAM SCHOOL
REASON
1
I WANT TO GO TO UNIVERSITY
I WANT TO BE A SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER AND TEACH WITH MR. NAGITA
IT'S NOT BAD TO BE ANNOYED.

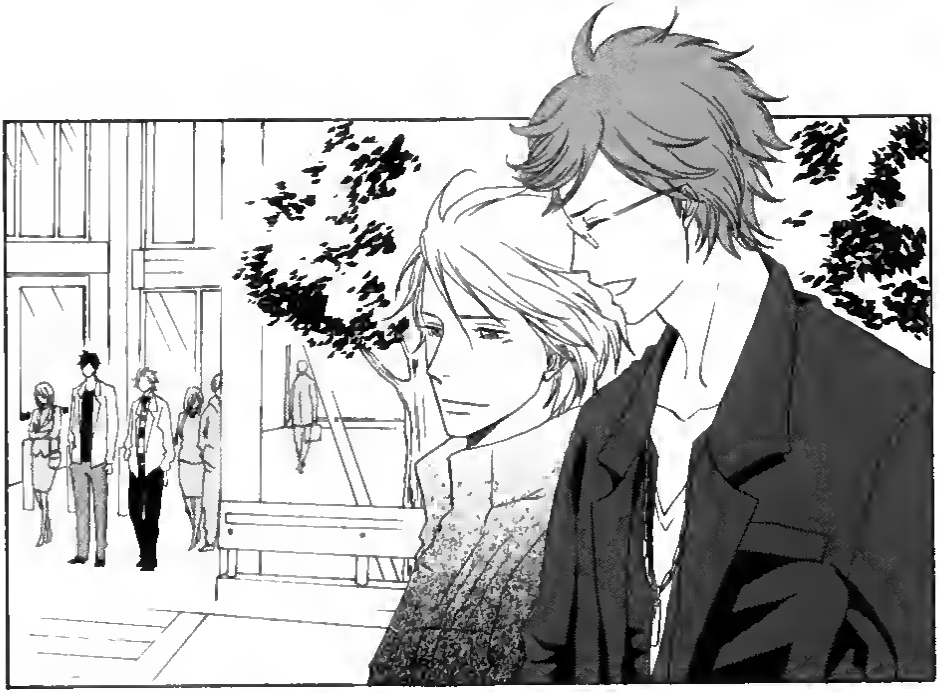


Q: WHAT DID WE LEARN IN SCHOOL?

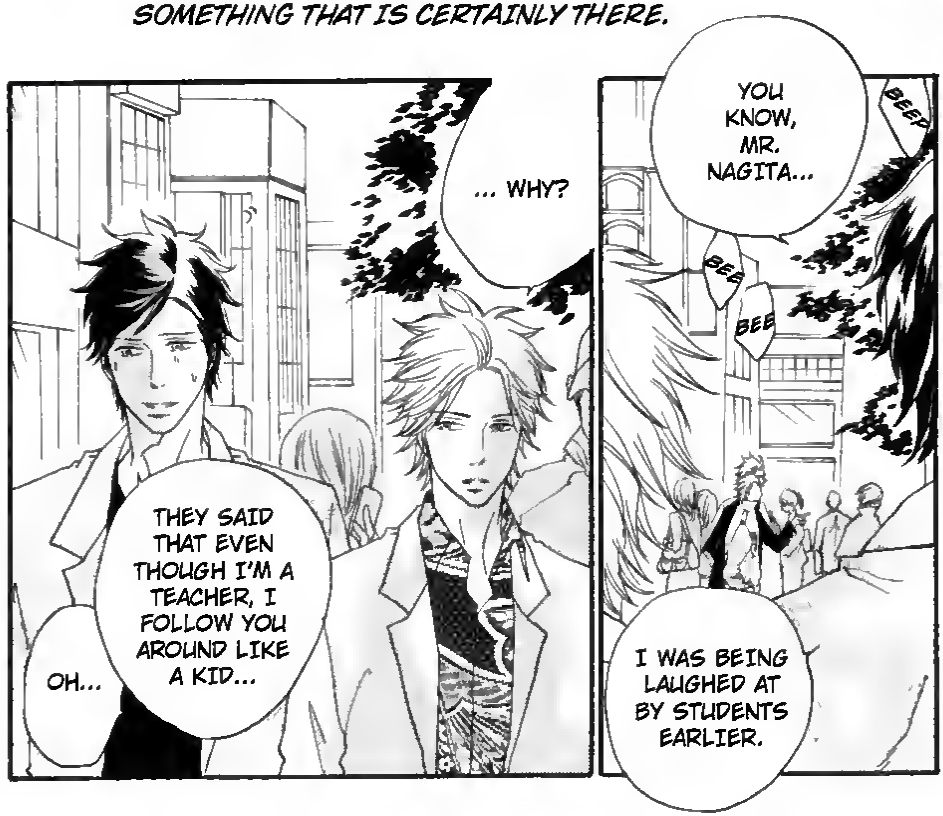


3. BACK THEN...
AND NOW, TOO...
GOURMET ADVICE
SPECIAL BAKING EDITION

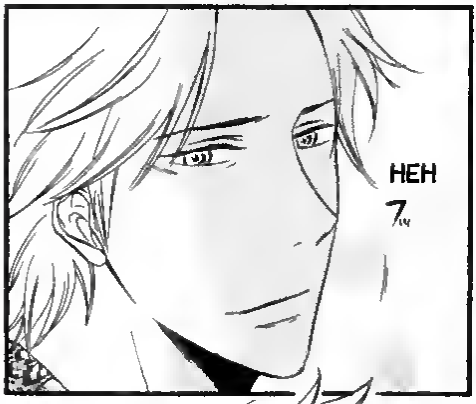
EALTH
ANCE
FROM
$120
WHAT CONTINUES ON UNCHANGING IS...
BAR
BAR

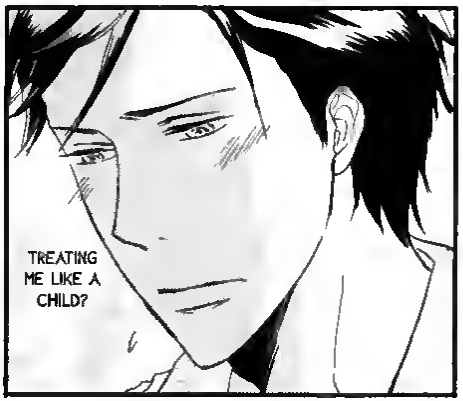


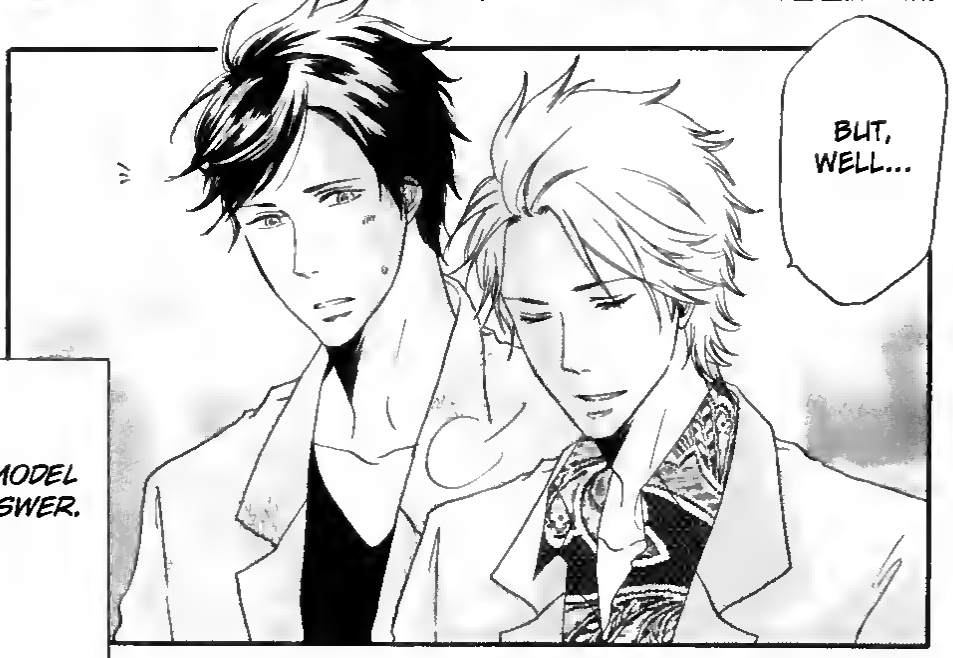
SOMETHING THAT IS CERTAINLY THERE.


... WHY?
THEY SAID THAT EVEN THOUGH I'M A TEACHER, I FOLLOW YOU AROUND LIKE A KID...
OH...
YOU KNOW, MR. NAGITA...
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
I WAS BEING LAUGHED AT BY STUDENTS EARLIER.

...
OH, THE LIGHT IS GREEN.
YOU ALSO NEED TO FIX THIS WHOLE APOLOGIZING ALL THE TIME THING.
I... I'M SORRY.
THEN MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T HIDE BEHIND ME.
I TOLD YOU TO FIX THAT.







A MODEL ANSWER.

THAT ANWER WOULD BE: "FROM LONG BEFORE AND FOR EVER AFTER..."

I WONDER IF YOU'VE GOTTEN ANY BETTER IN BED?

"WHAT CONTINUES FOR ETERNITY IS LOVE."

WE CAN ONLY LOVE - END

YUU

YOSHITAKE

MR. NAGITA

それからの僕たちは
US, AFTERWARD
HAGURI? I'M SORRY, IT LOOK LIKE YOU CALLED ME...
I HAD YOU WATCH THE HOUSE...
AND SO... UH...
... SORRY.
I CAN'T COME OVER TODAY...
SHOCK
THEY FIGHT A LOT. EVERY DAY.
LOOKS LIKE IT!
IS HE FIGHTING WITH HIS BOYFRIEND AGAIN?
I'M SO SORRY!
THEN YOU HAVE TO TELL ME THESE THINGS EARLIER,
YOU IDIOT!!

IS GINKAWA'S BIRTHDAY...
I EVEN BOUGHT A CAKE...
BUT TODAY...
THOUGH I'M HAPPY THAT SLACKER IS WORKING SERIOUSLY FOR ONCE.
IT'S BEEN ALMOST THREE YEARS SINCE GINKAWA STARTED BEING AN ASSISTANT STYLIST...
SIGH
HAGU IS AN OFFICE WORKER
HOLD THIS.
I'M GONNA GET DUMPED, TEACHER!
JUST PLEASE LET ME GO HOME!
SHUT UP
I'LL WORK FOR A MONTH WITH NO VACATION!
COME CLOSER.
YELL OUT SOME-THING.

I'M GONNA BEAT THE CRAP OUT OF HIM!!
JUST LIKE I USED TO...
WAAAAA!
...
THAT MAN
...
THAT MAN IS A DEMON!
GINKAWA AT THE TIME
HAGURI! I WANNA SEE YOU!
RATTLE
HEY! SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!

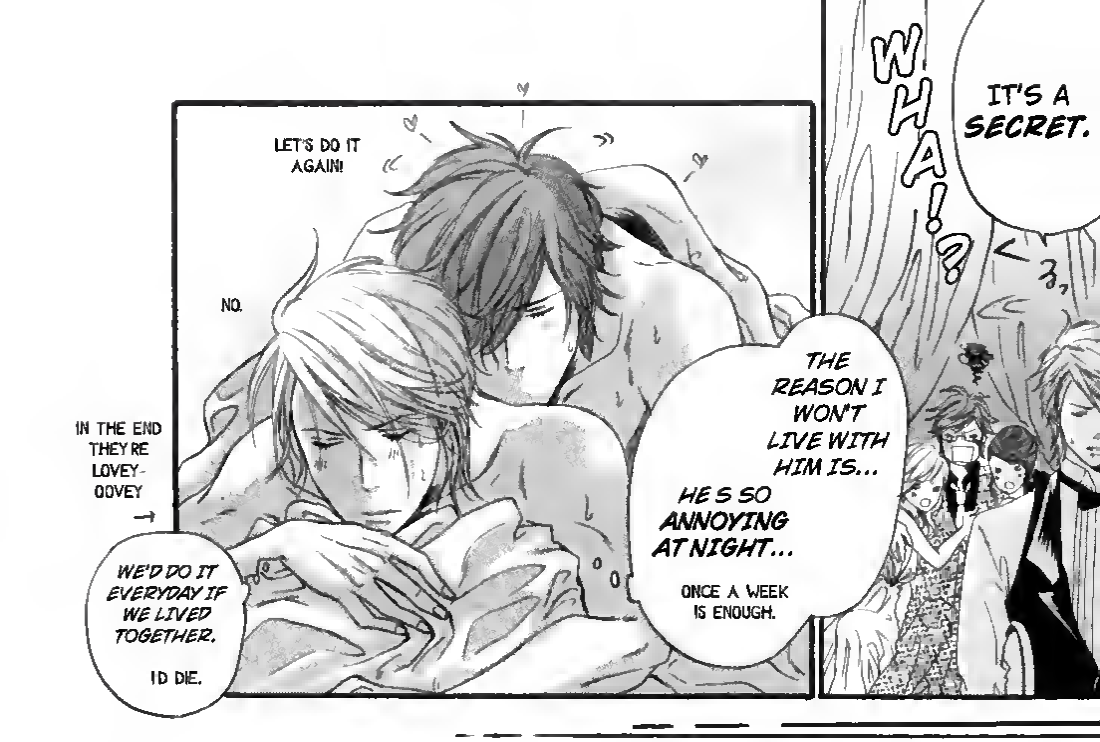
TAKA!
HOW WAS WORK TODAY?
WELCOME! TAKE A LOAD OFF.
AH.
YOU'RE LATE, TAKA!
...
ooo
... CHEER UP!
I'LL TREAT YOU TO SOMETHING.
THEY GOT MAD.
TA...
TAKA!
...
TWO MONTHS AGO, NAGARE'S FAMILY OPENED A SECOND JAPANESE-STYLE RESTAURANT.
I SPLASHED TEA ON THE CLIENT'S BOSS.
THEY GOT MAD AT ME.

NAGARE IS THE YOUNG OWNER OF THIS SECOND STORE.
AND ...
CHEER UP, TAKA.
SLUMP
I WANT MY MOMMY.
UGH... NAGARE ...
C'MON, SIT.
TAKA, IT'S OKAY!
CLACK
YUU... OF COURSE, IT WOULD BE ~~YOU~~...
ALL I NEED IS YOU.
TAKA!
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT?
I'LL MAKE YOU ANYTHING!
IT'S FROM MY BOSS.
WHAT'S UP?
UGH.
BEEP
OH! YOU SHOULD HAVE DONBURI!
MENU
OKAY!!
... DID HE JUST SAY "YOU"?
...
YUU HAS BECOME QUITE THE CHEF.
HM?
VRRRR

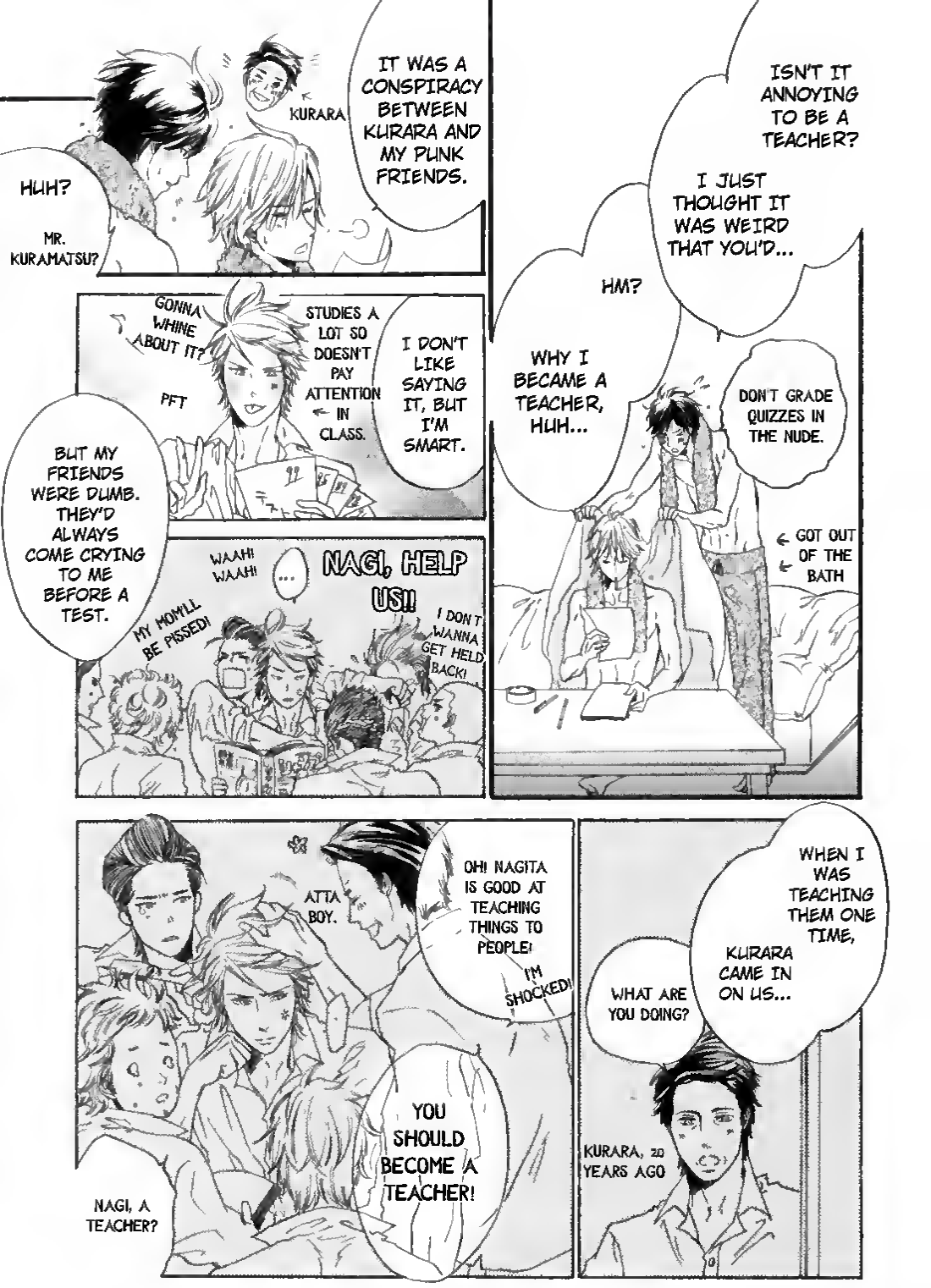
SORRY, I HAVE TO LEAVE FOR A BIT.
THEY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE DOING THE CGI.
OH, COME ON!
KYOUNOSUKE WORKS AT A COMPANY THAT MAKES MOVIE PREVIEWS.
HE'S OBSESSED--
RATTLE
SURE.
SORRY.
LET'S GRAB A DRINK SOON!
TAP
HINASE.
I MADE YOU SOME FOOD. IT'S JUST LEFTOVERS,
BUT I'M SURE YOUR COWORKERS WILL EAT SOME TOO..
I'LL BET YOU'RE HUNGRY
... YOU PREPARED THIS?
THIS IS TOO MUCH.
YOU'VE BEEN STAYING AT WORK OVERNIGHT AND I KNOW YOU'RE BUSY.
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEED IT.
MONDAY SET BEER $5

HA HA. ONCE YOU'RE DONE WITH WORK YOU CAN STAY AS OFTEN AS YOU LIKE.
DO YOUR BEST.
YEAH...
... I...
I WOULD RATHER STAY AT YOUR PLACE...
NOT AT WORK.
TAKA! YOUR DONBURI IS READY!!
REALLY!?
THANK YOU!!
YUU, HAVE SOME TOO.♡
YOUR STOMACH IS GROWLING.
GRRR
GROWL
GRR
HOW NICE
THEY'RE ALREADY LIKE AN OLD MARRIED COUPLE.
THOSE TWO...
BAM!
AHA HA
SORRY.
I SAID YOU CAN'T EAT IT!
GASP
HEY!!
YUU!! THAT'S FOR A CUSTOMER!!
SUCH GOOD FRIENDS.
PLEASE LISTEN TO ME!!

WHY WON'T HE JUST SAY "YES" TO ME!?
...
IF YOU ASKED YOU COUD EVEN RIDE ME...♡
REALLY?
EVER SINCE YOUR SCHOOL DAYS?
EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN SAYING IT ...
YAY
YAY
C'MON.
CALM DOWN, HAKOZAKI. ♡
COME HERE.
ALSO DON'T
WHY!?
I'M SORRY, SIR.
WE DON'T OFFER THAT SERVICE IN THIS ESTABLISH-MENT.
SO SCARY! ♡
WHY WON'T YOU LIVE WITH ME!?
...
UGH... THERE, THERE.
WHY WON'T YOU BE WITH HIM?
HARU'S SO FUNNY.
HE'S GOT A TON OF INCOME THROUGH HIS STOCKS.
YOU CAN RELAX.


WHA!?
IT'S A SECRET.
LET'S DO IT AGAIN!
NO.
THE REASON I WON'T LIVE WITH HIM IS...
HE'S SO ANNOYING AT NIGHT...
ONCE A WEEK IS ENOUGH.
IN THE END THEY'RE LOVEY-DOVEY
WE'D DO IT EVERYDAY IF WE LIVED TOGETHER.
I'D DIE.

PSSHT
HEY, MR. NAGITA?
WHY'D YOU BECOME A TEACHER?
JUST WONDERING
HM?
FLICK


KURARA
IT WAS A CONSPIRACY BETWEEN KURARA AND MY PUNK FRIENDS.
HUH?
MR. KURAMATSU?
GONNA WHINE ABOUT IT?
PFT
STUDIES A LOT SO DOESN'T PAY ATTENTION IN CLASS.
I DON'T LIKE SAYING IT, BUT I'M SMART.
BUT MY FRIENDS WERE DUMB. THEY'D ALWAYS COME CRYING TO ME BEFORE A TEST.
WAAH! WAAH!
...
NAGI, HELP US!!
MY MOM'LL BE PISSED!
I DON'T WANNA GET HELD BACK!
ISN'T IT ANNOYING TO BE A TEACHER?
I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS WEIRD THAT YOU'D...
HM?
WHY I BECAME A TEACHER, HUH...
DON'T GRADE QUIZZES IN THE NUDE.
GOT OUT OF THE BATH
ATTA BOY.
OH! NAGITA IS GOOD AT TEACHING THINGS TO PEOPLE!
I'M SHOCKED!
YOU SHOULD BECOME A TEACHER!
NAGI, A TEACHER?
WHEN I WAS TEACHING THEM ONE TIME,
KURARA CAME IN ON US...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
KURARA, 20 YEARS AGO

I'D FEEL AT EASE IF IT WERE NAGI TAKING CARE OF MY KIDS!!
HUH!?
IF NAGI TAKES CARE OF THEM, THEY'LL BE PRODIGIES!
(SIMPLE)
AS IF, IDIOT!
YEP YEP
HUH?
IF NAGI BECOMES A TEACHER, HE'LL HAVE TO LOOK AFTER OUR KIDS! IN THE FUTURE!
YAHOO!
I'LL KILL YOU!
LISTEN TO ME!
WHEE!
HOLD IT, YOU GUYS!
HOORAY FOR MR. NAGI!
...
MRR
... WHAT'S THE MATTER?
... SO YEAH. I GOT CAUGHT UP IN IT DESPITE HOW ANNOY-ING...
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE POPULAR IN HIGH SCHOOL.
... THERE WAS SOMETHING I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT YOU... IT KINDA MAKES ME SAD...
WHAT, ARE YOU JEALOUS?
I AM JEALOUS...

JEEZ.
THERE'S NO REASON TO BE UPSET.
RIGHT NOW, I BELONG TO YOU.
...
MR. NAGITA!
QUIT TALKING LIKE THAT!
DON'T WORRY, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS ABOUT MY THIGHS...
YOU CATCH MY DRIFT?
HAPPY
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY MORE... NOW...
CHEER UP.
TURN
TAKE-MIYA.
I'M GOING TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU.

...
AH!
PANT
MM ...
MM...
... TAKE... MIYA...
PANT
... NAGITA ...
TAKEMIYA ...
PANT
SHOCK
SAY IT LIKE YOU MEAN IT!!
YOU NEVER DO!!
DAMN IT!!

CREAK
GYAA!
NAGITA!! THAT'S-
WAH!
MORE...
LIKE THIS ...
AH
YOU HAVE TO PIN-POINT IT...
MM.
CREAK
CREAK
OH? WAS THAT GOOD?
AND THIS?
UH !?
THEN HOW ABOUT THIS?
...
TOP
SPLAT SPLAT
BOTTOM
!!?
I REALLY ...
YOU CAN CUM IF YOU WANT
AND THIS?
SPLAT SPLAT
CAN'T TAKE IT ANY MORE!
AYGH!
A MIRACLE ARRIVED.
... NO WAY!

TURN
SIR! I'M SORRY BUT CAN I TAKE A BREAK!?
... ONE HOUR.
I GUESS I HAVE TO.
!?
SIGH
WOOSH
THANK YOU SOOO MUCH!
I'M GLAD.
TAP TAP TAP
HE HAS GOTTEN CALMER SINCE WE FIRST STARTED DATING. BUT...
HEY!
HAGU ISN'T ALWAYS KIND.
HEY... GINKAWA!!
SMACK
HAGU, DON'T BE VIOLENT!
OW!
UGH!
WE HAVE A ONE HOUR TIME LIMIT!
HURRY!
TOOK HIM TO A LOVE HOTEL!
DON'T TELL ME YOU CAME HERE FOR SEX!?
I CHANGED MY CLOTHES FOR THIS!?
KICK

HAGU...
YOU DON'T LIKE SLEEPING WITH ME?
IT'S BEEN A MONTH ...
...
HE MAY NOT BE STRAIGHT-FOWARD HIMSELF, BUT...
BLUSH
GRIP
...
OH NO. IS HE GONNA HIT ME?
I WON'T LET HIM...!
DEAD SERIOUS
WOOSH
MMPH
むっ
!

AH
PANT
...
LIMP...
PANT
SPLT
MM...
TOUCH
SPLT
... MM!
SPLT
TWITCH
HIS BODY ALWAYS IS.
OH, CUTE!
...
TOUCH
SMOOCH
... GIN-KAWA...
HM?
YES?
... YOU KNOW ...
...

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THOSE WORDS!!
YES SIR!
FOOSH
I'M GONNA BEAT YOU UP
WAAAHH
HURRY UP AND DO IT ALREADY!!
YOU JERK!
...
I LOVE YOU, HAGU.
... DAMN IT,
ME TOO.
HAHAHA.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GINKAWA...
TAKE
LATER
THAT!!
SPLAT
CRANKY
CRANKY
HAGU, WHY!?

AFTERWORD

HELLO. I AM FUMIKO SHUSAI.

THANK YOU FOR READING MY BOOK, "WE IMMEDIATELY SWING AT FOUL BALLS."

I DECIDED ON MY DEBUT WITH MY OWN KIND OF EXPLOSIVE ENERGY. AS SOON AS IT DEBUTED I WAS VERY NERVOUS AS THERE WAS TALK ABOUT SERIALIZING IT.

I STRUGGLED WITH ALL OF THE STORIES, BUT THE ONE THAT TROUBLED ME THE MOST WAS HAGURI AND GINKAWA.

I HADN'T EVEN KNOWN ABOUT THE POPULARITY OF THE PRICKLY CHARACTER TYPE, AND I HAD ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA HOW THEIR STORY WOULD GO FROM THE START...

BUT THEY TAUGHT ME A LOT, SO I'M GRATEFUL TO THEM.

TO ALL THOSE WHO ENCOURAGED ME AND GOT MY COLLECTED BOOK, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

I HOPE WE CAN MEET AGAIN SOME DAY.

LETTERS AND QUESTIONS FROM MY READERS ARE IMPORTANT TO ME. THEY GIVE ME LIFE. THANK YOU!!

A COMIC ABOUT HAGU AND GINKAWA'S FIRST SEXUAL ENCOUNTER

◆FIRST PRINTING◆

WE IMMEDIATELY SWING AT FOUL BALLS	/ MAGAZINE BEXBOY (APRIL '08)
WE'LL KEEP RUNNING	/ MAGAZINE BEXBOY (MAY '08)
WE HAVE NO WORDS	/ MAGAZINE BEXBOY (JUNE '08)
WE'RE AWFUL	/ MAGAZINE BEXBOY (JULY '08)
WE CAN ONLY LOVE	/ MAGAZINE BEXBOY (AUGUST '08)
US, AFTERWARD	/ BONUS
AFTERWORD	/ BONUS

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